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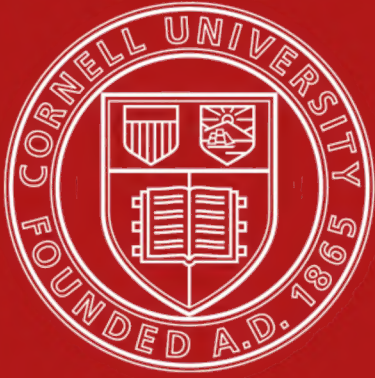
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HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS COMMISSION.

REPORT
ON THE
MANUSCRIPTS
OF THE
MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN
PRESERVED AT
BLICKLING HALL, NORFOLK.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



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INTRODUCTION.

THE Manuscripts at Blickling Hall, Norfolk, passed with that property to the Lothian family through the marriage of Lord Ancram (afterwards sixth Marquess) with Lady Henrietta Hobart, daughter of John, 2nd Earl of Buckinghamshire.

The present publication is due to the initiative and active personal interest of the late Constance Marchioness of Lothian, who a few years before her death permitted Mr. D'Arcy Collyer to examine and arrange the numerous charters and papers in her possession at Blickling, which had not been accessible to the Inspector on behalf of the Commissioners on his visit in 1869. These on examination arranged themselves under the three heads which follow :—

1. Ancient deeds and documents.
2. Hobart papers, documents belonging to the period commencing with the first connexion of the Hobart family with the property.
3. Buckinghamshire papers, belonging to the time of John Hobart, second Earl of Buckinghamshire.

The last section comprises part of a large collection of diplomatic correspondence and memoranda collected and endorsed by Lord Buckinghamshire himself, which was discovered by Constance Marchioness of Lothian in a cabinet, enclosed in antique cardboard boxes of foreign make, in which they had probably rested undisturbed for just over a century. An instalment of these papers has already been published by the Royal Historical Society in 1900 and 1902 (3rd series, Vols. 2 and 3), together with the text of the official despatches from St. Petersburg, noticed, but not set out, in the Commissioners' first Report above mentioned.

The first two sections of the present Report contain gleanings from the Muniment Room, a remote turret room where the papers had been either stored in boxes which had made many a journey in the London "stage," or had been piled in miscellaneous heaps of rolls, charters and correspondence, relating to persons whose relative significance had long since been forgotten, and to estates long parted with. These are now arranged in nine large tin boxes and docketed. Not till the documents had been cleaned and sorted was it possible out of this mass to evolve order or coherence. There then revealed itself, however, a singular and unexpected element of continuity in the presence, among the earlier muniments, of charters and rolls belonging to the foundations of Langley and Horsham St. Faith, two religious houses founded by the family of Fitz Robert (Cheyney), the first lay tenants of Blickling after the Conquest. This family held their manor in Blickling by grant or exchange from the Bishop of Norwich, whose predecessors had received it from the Conqueror in succession to Harold. The St. Faith's documents comprise court rolls going back to 49 Hen. III., and a number of charters of endowment; and the coincidence by which the muniments reverted after the dissolution of the monasteries to the home of their origin, if fortuitous, is remarkable. By a like coincidence, a charter of Bishop Eborard (p. 39) is among the documents, the Bishop who is recorded as having attempted in the beginning of the 12th century to recover the Cheyneys' manor to the see, on the ground of some condition in the grant. It was the destiny, however, of the two divisions of the manor into which the grant to John Fitz Robert had divided it, to become at last reunited in the hands of the lay holders, and the site of the Dagworth Manor House (where Blickling Hall now stands) superseded that of the older structure (occupied by Harold) of which the traces are still discernible on the river's edge, north of the Park.

So large a collection of papers, of course, contains many matters of interest to the local antiquarian. The extract (at p. 61) of the Langley rental, which is only a minute specimen of the elaborate code of task work (filling many pages) detailed for a long list of tenants, calls to mind how old is the never ceasing dispute between master and men in a wet harvest; the 24 days' work must not be hurried over to the detriment of the crops, *mediante equitate et justitia ne nimis cito accipiantur*.

The records of Hevingham, once a favourite lodge of the Bishops of Norwich (whither, too, Edward I. came in his progress in 1277), supply a specimen of a manorial extent (p. 33) which exemplifies the great multiplicity of ownership which widely obtained from earliest times and the extremely artificial character of the subinfeudation.

It is noticeable that Bishop Askew, minister to De la Pole* (Earl of Suffolk) in the reign of Henry VI., emerged from the position of parish priest in this obscure village (p. 43).

Social life is illustrated by the covenant (of cosenage) of Humphrey Bourghier (p. 65), and the letter of William Trussel on the education of a ward (p. 75). The letter appears to be a 15th century copy. The Trussels were connected with Weybourne, where the De Veres too left their name. A will of John Thetford of 1565 (p. 44), gives bequests of his "sylver salte," his "bow and quiver of arrows."

Of wider and more national significance may be noticed *e.g.* the original (duplicate) in good preservation of the subsidy roll for the county of Norfolk made on the occasion of the knight-hood of the Black Prince; the names of well-known members of the royal party of Henry III. in a few charters; that of Joan Countess of Hertford (daughter of Edward I.), whose title is handed down into Richard the Second's time in connexion with Saxthorpe (p. 46); and (in the case of the Blickling records) a trace here and there of the distinguished statesmen and warriors who found here relaxation from the toils of peace and war. Blickling seems early to have been a favourite place for sport, and it is appropriate to find John Engainet† in 1307 promulgating for Blickling the very scientifically drawn customary which appears here (on pp. 22-24). Poaching was rife in the 14th century (pp. 25-28), and later Sir John Fastolf's bailiff seems to have had before his eyes the possible complaints of over-preservation of game from the "Hommages of the Lordschepes"

* The De la Poles are chiefly remembered (locally) as the builders of the beautiful churches at Sall and Cawston.

† This warrior seems to have been official or hereditary master of the Pytcheley hunt. The lands which he held at Pightesley in the county of Northampton were held by the service of "finding at his own expense certain dogs for the destruction of wolves, foxes, martins and other vermin, within the counties of Northampton, Rutland, Oxford, Bucks, Essex and Huntingdon."

(p. 57). Devolving always among collaterals and following several ramifications of the Cheyney family,* the manor fell to several distinguished owners. Margaret Cheyney, Aileen le Mareschal, Dagworth (who commanded in Aquitaine and suffered imprisonment at the hands of the Barons), Holveston, Sir Thomas Erpingham, of Agincourt and Shaksperian fame, Sir John Fastolf, the Boleyns and Sir Edward Clere, are among the noble owners whose names appear in these charters, but in none of the documents prior to the sale by Clere to the Hobarts can the personal share of the house in public life be definitely traced.

Sir Henry Hobart, Knight and Baronet, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, *temp.* James I., bought the Blickling estates from Sir Edward Clere, the representative of the Boleyns in the female line, and on the site of the Dagworth manor house built the mansion which remains so impressive and beautiful an example of the architecture of his time. Sir Henry Hobart's public character is best known from the sketch by Judge Jenkins comparing him with his great contemporary, Coke:—
 “Two lights of the law, . . . the monument of whose genius
 “and labour shall flourish so long as our most just and sacred
 “laws, the splendour, majesty and fame of England shall
 “endure. In Hobart were many noble things, an excellent
 “eloquence, the éclat of ancestry, the most engaging sweetness
 “animated with a singular gravity.” Sir Henry's handwriting in several holograph leases attests the diligence and accuracy with which his private affairs were conducted. His son Sir John, who married, first, Philippa, daughter of Robert Sydney, dying without an heir male, left as his widow a second wife, Lady Frances. This lady, who was the daughter of the Earl of Bridgewater and sister of Lady Alice Egerton (the “Lady” of Milton's *Comus*), lived to old age in Chapel Field House in Norwich, for many years the local town house of the Hobarts.†

A note of Lady Frances to General Lambert and his reply to it (p. 89) show that the family was not without influence with the leaders of the Civil War; for though one or two cadets of

* De Cressi, Fitz Roger, Engaine and Dagworth are all descendants of the Cheyneys in the female line.

† Recent excavations show that the chapel of this chantry foundation stood in the open ground north of the house and east of the bowling green. A parcel of title deeds relating to this property are preserved at Blickling.

the family were found in the ranks of the Royalists, its main influence was steadily on the Parliamentary side throughout the crisis, while the estates and title passed to Sir John, son of Miles Hobart* and nephew of his predecessor.

This Sir John, who enjoyed power and repute during the Commonwealth, "a quondam lord of Oliver Cromwell," as he is styled by Tompson, the contemporary newswriter,† lived to present in 1659 a petition for the return of the secluded members, to see his friend Sir John Holland of Quidenham the next year taking part in the deputation to bring the King back, and himself to return to the Lower House of Parliament after the Restoration, as member for Norfolk.

Of these stirring and troublous times unfortunately no epistolary correspondence remains, and scarcely a trace of the visit paid by Charles II. to Blickling shortly after the Restoration, when he conferred knighthood on the ill-fated Sir Henry, Sir John's eldest son.

The Estreat of Subsidies for the year 1663 (pp. 89-116) gives a list of landowners in five hundreds; the name of "Philip Skippon, Esq., ultra mare," whose house is still conspicuous at Foulsham, illustrates the vicissitudes of political influence; a local tradition credits this noted republican general with profiting by his neighbourhood to Melton (p. 108) to become possessed by some illicit means of the plan of Naseby fight, from some follower of Sir Jacob Astley.

A volume of Lieutenancy Journals fortunately preserved (of which a few extracts only are here given) affords a valuable contribution to the county history of the later years of Charles II. and the Revolution, and supplements the scanty entries in the house books and other casual memoranda in affording glimpses of the party jealousies which the stress of civil strife had exacerbated and His Majesty's presence in the county soon after the Restoration had evidently not permanently allayed. The List of Deputy Lieutenants and Officers of Militia given on pp. 125-7 stands as it appeared after being reformed and

* The *Dict. Nat. Biog.* distinguishes this Miles Hobart from the Sir Miles who was conspicuous for locking the doors of the House of Commons during the vote on Tonnage and Poundage (1629). Cf. the passages there cited from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for the grounds of this conclusion.

† Unpublished Felbrigg papers. Sir John was in fact a member of Cromwell's Upper House.

expurgated in the interests of the Court by Robert Paston, Lord Yarmouth, who replaced Lord Townshend on his removal from that office in 1675. It is significant that none of the three first signatories of the manifesto for reducing the expenses of the High Sheriff (pp. 122-4) are included in the new commissions as Deputy Lieutenants or in the Militia, and this perhaps makes it probable that what appears to be a harmless sumptuary agreement for reducing extravagance was represented at Court as having a disloyal intention.* Barillon's confidential imputations in his reports to Louis XIV. about this time as to the accessibility of certain country politicians to foreign influence suggest that economy was a matter of sufficient concern in the county to make the movement a natural one.

The entry (at p. 129) below, referring to the trial at the Bar of the House of Commons and another mentioning Verdon by name, are almost the only memorials of two contested elections fought with much determination by Sir John Hobart for the county representation in 1678-9, which were both the subject of petition. The first of these figures more largely in Mr. Ketton's Felbrigg papers.† Mr. Windham on the first occasion had declined Sir John's overtures to engage him in Parliamentary life on the ground that his opponent, Sir Neville Catelyn, the Court candidate, was "encouraged from above and countenanced here," and his surmise seems to have had ample foundation.

The tide of Protestant and Parliamentary reaction on which Titus Oates was being floated to the surface was not yet flowing so turbulently as to discourage the Court party from making a bold bid for power at the general election in Jan. 1678-9, and Sir Christopher Calthorpe and Sir Neville Catelyn enjoyed a short-lived triumph in being returned as knights of the shire, though Sir John after the "trial at barr" on his petition was successful in replacing Sir Christopher Calthorpe, unseated.‡ But the contest was persistent and severe. The Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff had been strong for the Court. "To oppose

* Cf. Hist. MSS., Rep. VI., part I., 374, William Hughes to Lady Yarmouth.

† Hist. MSS., Rep. XII., App. IX., 183.

‡ Dean Prideaux' impressions of this election given in the Camden Society's volume of his letters to Ellis (p. 176) may be compared. The Dean is in error in citing this election as for the last Parliament at Westminster of Charles II., and his general statements about it seem equally incorrect. He came to Norwich afterwards, and his report was probably at second hand.

“any interest sett up by the civil and military government of a country,” Mr. Windham had written, “will be called faction by some, inconsiderate by others, and very improbable to be successful by most, and that he who is sole judge of the poll, and by whom the returne is to be made, is our open and declared enemy.”* Mr. Windham, however, seems to have been busy just at this time with the cielings of his house at Felbrigg, that beautiful Italian work in high relief that is still one of its chief ornaments, and was dragged a very reluctant Cincinnatus into the strife of the second election. The country gentry were perhaps naturally unwilling to renew the strife of a generation earlier and the acts of fraud and intimidation charged in Sir John Hobart’s petition against Samuel Verdon, the under sheriff, support the theory that the latter was backed “from above,” and that functionary’s vigorous and defiant methods must have been exceptional even in the days of unreformed elections. First refusing poll books or writing materials to Sir John’s voters and throughout the day fraudulently hindering the record of votes, tearing leaves from Hobart’s poll books, several times “beating and abusing” the freeholders, he ended by closing the poll prematurely in the face of 1,000 unpolled electors, “violently took the pollbooks away, and drew his sword in defence of it.”† Paston, the Lord Lieutenant, was believed to have taken a strong part. The petition charges “that before the election several letters were dispersed as written by the said Lord as beynge Lord Lieutenant of the said county (Norfolk) to the gentry and clergy of the said county not only appointing persons by name to be the said knights of the shire, but assuming it would be an affront to him and his authority as Lord Lieutenant to elect

* Unpublished Felbrigg papers.

† Unpublished Felbrigg papers. An account of Verdon and his eccentric progress to London is given by North in his memorial of the Lord Keeper Guilford (II., 21), where he also mentions how the insolence of this man secured him the favour of Judge Jeffreys. “The sergeant’s men went down and took him (Verdon) But in bringing him up he would not be prevailed with, either to mount or dismount his horse, but forced the messengers at every town to lift him on and off, and at the same time had his clerks taking notes in order to testify these assaults of his person, for every one of which he intended to bring an action of battery. It so fell out that as he was upon the road between Norwich and London the Parliament was prorogued, by which the warrant ceased, and after that the custody was a false imprisonment, and Verdon brought his action for it against the messengers, which action was tried at the Exchequer bar.”

“or to be elected without his consent or concurrence . . . ,
 “and the said Lord Lieutenant’s Steward as by his Lordship’s
 “command required some of his Lordship’s tenants to give their
 “votes for Sir Christopher Calthorpe and Sir Neville Catelyn,
 “who were threatened that if they did not vote for them, the
 “farms which they had of his Lordship should be taken from
 “them.”

When Sir John’s petition came on for hearing, the excitement of the Popish Plot was rising high, and he records how he was vexatiously shut into the house on one occasion, and detained during the arrest and examination of a suspect parliamentary lawyer, one Reading.

Sir John obtained the seat at the next election, and again with his son Henry sat in the Oxford Parliament of 1681. The Ryehouse Plot in 1683 marked the decadence of the Protestant and popular party, and the turn of the wheel found Sir John obnoxious to the ascendant faction. In execution of an order in Council addressed to the Earl of Arundel, who had succeeded Lord Yarmouth in the Lord Lieutenancy, his house was searched in July of the latter year. The list of arms found at Blickling (given at p. 130 below), is the result of this search. Mr. Scambler at Wolterton, Hamond Claxton at Aylsham, Henry Marsham at Stratton Strayless, and Thomas Newman at Baconsthorpe were at the same time subjected to a like ordeal. Dr. John Collinges, the biographer of Lady Frances and the Presbyterian chaplain of the Hobarts at Chapel Field, was arrested as a nonjuring suspect in 1685.* A few years later it was the turn of the Papists, and later, of the nonjurors proper, to experience these reciprocal visitations. Christopher Layer, of Booton, who is marked for search in 1696 (p. 142), is uncle and namesake of the notorious conspirator who suffered at Tyburn in 1723. But as is shewn in these Lieutenancy Journals, these neighbourly inquisitions were rewarded on each succeeding occasion with less satisfying results. The seizures even at the period of the “horrid designe” of the Rye House in 1683 were of less value than variety. “A back, breast and head piece of a horse” are found at Colney, “three Olliverian swords” at

* He appears to have been arrested twice this year according to the entries in the Lieutenancy journal.

Warham. In 1696 Sir Christopher Calthorpe yields only "9 old carbines, 4 old musketts, one brass blunderbuss, 3 old pistols, 3 old swords." The four black coach horses seized by Sir Frances Guybon from Sir Nicholas L'Estrange, "one mealy faced and one with a white starr," are discharged by the Deputy Lieutenants in conclave, who certify that none of them is worth 5*l.*, "they being old and lame, and some of them blind." The lowest point is reached in 1707 with the seizure of "one musquet and a belt of bandoliers" from Mr. Lake at Sparham (p. 145).

Sir Henry Hobart on his succession in 1683 found the estates largely encumbered, and had further to reduce them by sale to meet the demands made by creditors. Taking an active part in the politics of the time and on the constitutional side, he appears to have presided over the counsels of the county in the absence of the Lord Lieutenant and to have favoured a policy more comprehensive than that of his superior (pp. 155-6).

It is no doubt to the appointment of his son, the first Earl of Buckinghamshire, to the Lord Lieutenancy, that is due the preservation of the Lieutenancy Journals of this period, which give a vivid illustration of the Revolutionary crisis of 1688-9. The militia force of the county is shewn to be in a high state of organisation, and the action of the Protestant Duke of Norfolk, cool-headed and constitutional. "*Bel homme à cheval*," as Evelyn calls the latter, it is evident (pp. 134-5) that his personality counted for something in the period of transition. He seems to have sat the fence with masterly firmness, and so long as hopes were held out by James II. that a Parliament would be summoned the forces of the county were engaged to maintain the existing *régime*. Not till the cause was surrendered by the retirement of James II. was their weight thrown on the side of the Revolution.

In 1690 Sir Henry Hobart served on King William's staff at the battle of the Boyne, but on his return the embarrassed state of the country was not such as to afford any relief to his encumbered finances, and in a quarrel which is asserted to have had some connexion with his contested election for the county, he met with the wound from a left-handed antagonist*

* Oliver Le Neve of Great Witchingham, whilom Captain of the Eynsford (militia) Company. There was evidently political animosity involved in the quarrel. (See Le Neve Papers, edited by Mr. Rye).

that proved fatal. A stone marks the spot at Cawston heath where this, one of the last duels fought with swords, took place. The long minority and succession of his son (three of whose sisters were borne in their infancy to the churchyard of Blickling) added little of public interest to the archives, and in the papers of his grandson begin what are practically modern politics.

The diplomatic papers collected by John second Earl of Buckinghamshire in the course of his long life (1723-1793) relate for the most part, 1st, to the period of his Embassy to St. Petersburg (Sept. 1762-Jan. 1765); 2ndly, to the American Colonies; 3rdly, to his momentous Vice-Royalty of Ireland. Among the private letters are eight bundles addressed to Sir Thomas Drury, of which Lord Buckinghamshire became possessed through his first wife Mary Anne, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Drury. The chief public interest of these consists in the record which they contain of the feeling with which men in the more distant parts of the country viewed the invasion of '45, and of the fluctuations of the money market at the time.

The letters addressed by Lord Buckinghamshire to Henrietta Countess of Suffolk, the Lady Suffolk of Pope, Swift, and Walpole, are those of a son to an indulgent mother, for such she had been to him and his only sister since the death of their mother in 1726. They serve to complement and illustrate Lady Suffolk's letters to him in reply, which have been published in Croker's edition of her correspondence, while the curious narrative (pp. 166-170) of her interview with Queen Caroline on retiring from office at Court in 1734 goes far to support the belief of her friends, to which Horace Walpole refers while he dissents from it, that Lady Suffolk's "connection with the King was confined to pure friendship." The cryptic allusion to "Lord B." is probably to be explained by a passage in a contemporary letter from Lady Elizabeth Compton (*Hist. MSS. Comm. Report XI*, 4, p. 243) in which she mentions a rumour that Lady Suffolk had been too often seen in the company of Lord Bolingbroke at Bath, and that her retirement was the result of consequent suspicions cast upon her loyalty to the House of Hanover.

The Russian papers make a considerable contribution to the chronicles of British trade with Russia both before and after

the first formal treaty of commerce concluded by Lord Forbes in 1734, and there is also a long series of documents relating to the disputed succession to the Duchy of Courland. This was an event which at the time passed with scarcely a comment in England, yet it was Frederick the Great's promise to support Catherine II. in her policy toward that Polish fief which was the first step to the conclusion of the alliance between Prussia and Russia in 1764, of which the direct result was the partition of Poland. The absorption of Courland by Russia had long been in contemplation. Since the dissolution of the Livonian State in 1561, the Duchy had had an independent existence as a fief of Poland, and it was to the interest of Russia that it should be looked upon not as an appanage to the Crown of Poland but as a vassal state of the Republic. In 1733, the Czarina Anna made it a condition of her consent to support the election of Augustus III. of Saxony to the Crown of Poland that the Duchy should be so considered, and that it should not be divided into Palatinates. In 1737, the death of the last Duke Ferdinand of the Kettler family enabled Anna to force upon the Courlanders her favourite, John Ernest de Biren, whose grandfather had been groom to the Dukes of the ancient house. For one month in 1740, during the reign of the infant Ivan, the new Duke of Courland was Regent of Russia. For twenty years from May 1741 he was an exile in Siberia. Meanwhile, on the 3rd of January 1759, Augustus III. invested his son Charles Christian of Saxony with the Dukedom, at the request, as he declared, of the states of the country. But with the accession of Peter III. in 1762, Biren returned from exile once more to claim his Duchy, to become in the hands of Catherine the Second a convenient instrument in her design of ridding both Courland and Poland of the rule of the House of Saxony. It is at this point that Lord Buckinghamshire's papers take up the tale and furnish an official statement of the case on both sides between Russia and Poland in the matter of Courland. Stanislas Poniatowski's letter of 31st May, 1764, congratulating Duke Biren on his re-establishment, is significant as giving a clue to one of the conditions upon which he received the support of the Czarina in his election to the Crown of Poland.

The events which led up to that election are related by Thomas Wroughton, British Envoy to the Elector of Saxony and King

of Poland, from the point of view of a man who was strongly prepossessed in favour of Catherine II., with whom he had lived on terms of intimacy before her accession. Wroughton had at that time the office of Consul General at St. Petersburg, and it was said that his house became the place of rendezvous for the Archduchess Catherine and Stanislas Poniatowski. Whatever may have been the truth of this, Peter III., when there was a question of Wroughton's appointment as Envoy, refused to admit him to an audience, and he was in consequence recalled in March 1762, and sent as resident to Warsaw.

Lord Buckinghamshire's embassy to Russia, partly from the uncertainty surrounding the prospects of the new Empress, partly from the inadequate realisation at home of the importance of the Russian factor in politics (p. 371), was attended by no political success. He was, however, upon his return to England, offered the Embassy to Madrid, which he refused, and he held no other public office until he became Viceroy of Ireland in January 1777.

When Lord Buckinghamshire accepted the arduous task which Lord Harcourt had not reluctantly dropped, he encountered, without that cordial support from the Government at home enjoyed by his predecessor, a combination of difficulties which, having increased under Lord Harcourt's administration, offered at the close of that nobleman's tenure of office a prospect which he felt scarcely able to encounter. The advent of a new Viceroy, besides being the occasion for a renewal of unsuccessful claims for patronage, prompted fresh appeals for the redress of the commercial and financial disabilities under which Ireland was suffering, and a phase of more active agitation in and out of Parliament synchronised with the external disquiet caused by the unfavourable conduct of the American war.

During four years, however, of a period the most critical in English history, Lord Buckinghamshire contrived to maintain in some fashion the *status quo*. The like succeeding period of four years witnessed the advent and departure of as many Viceroys and the establishment of an independent Parliament. His partial success seems attributable to personal qualities of tact and temper, which, combined with a sincere zeal for the welfare of the Irish people, created, in the opinion of Grattan, "a passion in his favour approaching to love."

The impoverished and defenceless state of the country, indeed, seem amply to have justified the concessions granted during his Viceroyalty to the export trade and the Volunteers.

On the question of Free Trade a memorandum of Sackville Hamilton (p. 301) is worth notice. A number of such monographs was collected specially by Lord Buckinghamshire for the instruction of Government. These able and eloquent dissertations justified the economic reform which was precipitated by the growing danger of the trade with France, then inflated by the existing embargo on the export of provisions and other economical restrictions. "Two of her" (Ireland's) "provinces," says one writer, "may at this very day be called provinces of France as much as provinces of Great Britain." The rupture of diplomatic relations with France following on her action in regard to the revolted colonies, forced on the concession of an outlet for a trade which, diverted in illicit channels to France, had up to this time supplied a large share of the taxable wealth of the island. Of the same financial depression the rise of the volunteer movement was another natural outcome. The proposed militia scheme being abandoned for want of money, fresh drains were made on the military establishment, and the constant drafts of troops for the American war could not be replaced, even though Scotland was laid under contribution, and we find the Athol Highlanders among the infantry of the garrison (p. 330). In these papers, however, we find little trace of the "impotent dismay" which the writer of the article in the Dictionary of National Biography (following Mr. Lecky) discovers in the Viceroy at this crisis. His attitude of passive acquiescence in the growth of these voluntary associations is not obscurely invited in Lord Sandwich's significant reminder that "a coast cannot be protected by ships alone," a phrase suggesting the tacit assent of the Home Government to a condition of things which the Viceroy was expected to tolerate, without any overt sign of approval.

If the extent and importance of the volunteer movement were at first underrated by him, the famous epigram of Hussey Burgh^{*} is proof that the nation itself stood startled and surprised at the sudden growth and formidable proportions of its own military

* "You have sown the dragon's teeth and they have sprung up armed men."

offspring. If official discouragement disparaged the movement in the eyes of immediate aspirants to Court favour, as these letters seem to show, that movement at least in its earlier stages was strong in the high character and loyal disposition of its leaders.

With the termination of his Viceroyalty, Lord Buckinghamshire's public life came to an end, though it may be gathered from these letters that the conduct of Irish business presented no difficulties (except those factitious ones arising from his unfortunate relation to his colleagues at home) that he felt unable to grapple with, and that he would not have been unwilling to utilise his experience in a second term of office.

Sir Henry Clinton's letters to Lord Buckinghamshire, written at and about the date of Lord Cornwallis' surrender, may interest students of the polemics of this episode, though they cannot be said to throw much additional light on an unfruitful controversy. The rude original prints of the manifesto of the Pennsylvanian line are tacitly eloquent of a crisis that seems so nearly to have wiped out the army of the revolted colonies.

Dying in 1793, the second Lord Buckinghamshire was buried the following year in the mausoleum which he had designed, but not lived to complete, in the centre of his park at Blickling. Tradition till lately kept alive the impressive memory of the torchlight procession which accompanied the translation from the church to their final resting-place of the remains of one who had filled an honourable place in the public life of his time, who had moved, a stately and representative figure, in the social and political scenes of his environment and generation.

This Report, with the Introduction and Index, has been prepared, with some assistance in revision of the early documents from the Rev. W. D. Macray, by Mr. D'Arcy Bedingfeld Collyer.

MANUSCRIPTS
OF
THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN,
AT BLICKLING HALL, NORFOLK.

SECTION I.—ANCIENT DEEDS, ETC.

In the First Report of this Commission issued in 1870, one page is occupied by an account by Mr. A. J. Horwood of a few historical papers which he examined in July, 1869. But he makes no mention of the voluminous contents of the Muniment Room, which had not then been examined for probably a century and a half, and were entirely unsorted and unarranged, and evidently not then open to his inspection, as being no doubt supposed to lie outside the objects of his visit.* These have now for the greatest part been sorted and are described below.

The manor of Blickling belonged to Harold at the Conquest, and the alleged site of Harold's house can even now be traced in dry weather in the cornfield adjoining the river which runs beyond the extreme end of the park from the north of the present Hall. The manor, according to the return made in the Hundred Roll of 3 Edw. I. (*Rot. Hundr.* vol. i. p. 513), was confirmed by Henry I. to Herbert, first bishop of Norwich, who gave it in exchange for Thorpe near Norwich to John le Cheny (*sic*), son of Robert Fitz Walter.

* Mr. Horwood mentions the existence of certain classical MSS., with Missals and Books of Hours, which he was unable to see. These, which still have not been open to inspection, are, it is understood, chiefly, if not entirely, of foreign origin, possessing no English historical interest.

HORSHAM ST. FAITH.

Robert Fitz Walter, with Sibyl de Caineto his wife, founded the priory of St. Faith near Norwich, A.D. 1105-6, as a cell of the abbey of Conches in Normandy, in pursuance of a vow, under circumstances well-known and narrated by Dugdale. It became independent of the abbey in 14 Rich. II.

The Priory documents include a charter of confirmation by the founder's grand-daughter Margaret Cheyney, and a copy of one of her father, William de Kaneto, containing one of those ambiguities which sometimes gave rise (as it seems to have done in the present case) to disputed claims. A fine levied in 34 Hen. III., of which the record is among the papers, settled a dispute between Berengarius the Prior and Hugh de Cressy the patron as to the title to 5 acres of wood, "*utrum sit libera eleemosina pertinens ad ecclesiam dicti Prioris de Horsham an laicum feodum ipsius Hugonis.*"

Among other benefactions to the priory is one of Theobald Halteyn, who bestows 67 acres for the benefit of the soul of his lord King Henry [II.] and his lord Humphrey de Buun [Bohun], for which he receives 27 marks to assist him in his expedition to Jerusalem. The name of the first or second prior hitherto not recorded, Austorgius, is found in a charter which may be dated about 1120-30, and that of a successor, Bertrand, about 1140-60.

The manor rolls, commencing in 49 Hen. III., are very voluminous. The domestic discipline in regard to admitting strangers to sojourn in the village appears to have been strict, a number of presentments being made of persons who had entertained strangers without licence. A selection of presentments is given below.

There is also a small roll of the market court chiefly interesting in regard to the nature of the chattels 'attached' to answer the judgment of the court.

Among later documents, the probate of the will dated 1521 of Helen Carter (*see Blomefield's Norfolk*, vol. x. p. 438), providing for a Trental to be sung for twenty years by the monks, and providing for the repair of the cross in St. Faith's churchyard, is worth noting. Also the "testimonyall" or letter of commendation from Prior Stokes given to one Metcalfe, the bearer of a bede-roll.

BLICKLING.

The rolls of greatest interest and antiquity are those of Dagworth manor, in Blickling, which from the time of Bishop Eborard (Hen. I.) was separated from the episcopal manor until re-united in a grant from Henry VIII. to Sir John de Clere. It is recorded that Eborard sought a Bull from the Pope to restore it to the see on the ground that it was granted away in order to protect it during times of civil disturbance. The manor belonged to a series of historical families, Dagworth, Holveston, Engayne, Erpingham, Fastolf, Boleyn and Clere.

An interesting order in Chancery (in English), relating to the terms of purchase between Sir John Fastolf and Sir Geoffrey Boleyn, is copied at length.

A roll of 7 Edw. II. affords a good specimen of the varied and interesting matters which the early Blickling rolls contain. Presentments are made of a parochial chaplain prosecuting in a Court Christian, and for his usury; of the taking by a tenant the order of Exorcist without the lord's licence; of two parochial chaplains for being concerned in an affray; of hamsoken; breaking the assize; selling mead; raising the hue and cry unlawfully; regrating; purpresture; &c.

It is probably owing to the connexion of the Hobarts with Blickling that the muniments include so large and varied an accumulation of manor rolls. Lord Chief Justice Hobart, who amassed considerable estates in Norfolk in the time of James I., appears, with commendable carefulness, to have got into his hands the oldest muniments of the several properties which he acquired by purchase. It is probably owing to this that there is so large a collection of documents of the Priory of Horsham St. Faith's, which came to him after the Dissolution, when the connexion of the priory with the lords of Blickling as its founders had apparently long ceased to exist. Many of Hobart's leases to his tenants are apparently drawn in his own handwriting.

HEVINGHAM.

To Sir Henry Hobart is probably also due the early and interesting series of manorial documents of Hevingham (which was purchased from the Thetfords), a former "hunting-box" of the Bishops of Norwich on the road from Norwich to Blickling, where the bishops had a deer park, and a manor which appears to have flourished and increased under their ascendancy. A charter of Bishop William Turbus granting lands in the manor to Herbert Catte and Alda his wife, "*nepoti ejusdem Willelmi*," suggests the origin of the name of "Catt's manor," which is not elsewhere accounted for.

An extent of the manor of Hevingham in the time of Henry III., with sundry interlineations (apparently amendments sanctioned by the King's Commissioners in Eyre), seems to illustrate the method in which manorial jurisdictions sometimes grew. This is here printed in full, and the corrections are noted by being printed in italics.

The charters connected with this manor include also an interesting compact under seal granting a "peace of mayhem" to the son of one considerable tenant who had injured another. The document is witnessed by a number of the junior representatives of neighbouring families. Here, as a presentment in Bishop Middleton's time [1278-88] attests, it was the custom for the tenants to choose yearly "*tres homines ad officium prepositi, tres ad cornu gerendum, et unum ad officium porcarii*."

The account-roll for the year of the Black Death is among these documents.

An entry on one roll relates that a number of the records were burnt by the mob at the time of Litester's rebellion (following Wat Tyler's), when Bishop Spencer was riding about after the rioters. North Walsham, where he defeated them, is only a few miles distant.

SAXTHORP.

There are two principal manors in Saxthorp, those of Mickelhall connected more especially with Valence, Earl of Pembroke, and Loundhall. The latter extends into a number of adjoining parishes. William de Valence had a castle in this place, and the records shew it to have been a place of much greater relative importance than at present. The Loundhall rental of the time of Rich. II. noted below shews 243 tenants. The deeds and documents connected with these manors comprise the names of Wendenuel (the holders *temp.* Hen. I.), William Valence Earl of Pembroke (a good impression of his seal), Ralph Lord Cromwell, Sir John Fastolf, Sir Thomas Erpingham, W. Oldhalle, Grey de Ruthin, Gresham, Yelverton, and W. Waynflete and other feoffees of Sir J. Fastolf.

There is a specimen of the seal of Bromholm priory, almost perfect, attached to a release of a rent of 4s. payable to the foundation.

Among the deeds worthy of note (of which there are not many in a very large collection) is a grant by Heloisa de Wendenuel to an old servant of her father.*

Another of interest is the grant (27 Edw. I.) of licence to Sir Simon de Crepping from Richard de Hertford, the rector of the parish church, to have divine service performed "*per idoneum capellanum*" in a chapel or oratory to be erected by Sir Simon near his court, provided that Sir Simon attends the parish church on the four principal feast days.

A record of assize of 41-50 Ed. III. gives a considerable contribution to the pedigree of the Dautre family.

The free chapel of St. Dunstan seems to have been connected with the Mickelhall manor; it is not that for which the license above was granted.

The name of "Peddersty" for a path (deed of 6 Hen. VI.) may perhaps throw a light on the vexed question of the origin of the name Corpusty, the name of the adjoining parish. "Peddersty" is presumably "the pedlar's way." Cf. A. S. *Stig*.

The series of charters and rolls for Saxthorp gives evidence of the thicker population of these districts in the 14th century compared with that at present existing. A customary of the manor of Loundhall *temp.* Richard II. shews 104 tenants paying a money rental, with 56 who pay in kind altogether 210. The population of the parish of Saxthorp at the census of 1891 was 276.

* The Wendenvalls or Wendevals are mentioned by Blomefield as the earliest tenants of the manor after the Conquest, but he does not refer to the name as occurring in any charter which he had seen.

LANGLEY.

Of the manor and abbey of Langley there was an ancient link with Blickling in the fact of its foundation by Robert Fitz Roger. In this case also the abbey site came into the hands of Chief Justice Hobart after the Dissolution, by purchase from Sir Richard Berney, and with it a beautiful survey or rental of the monastic lands dated 1288 in excellent condition.

WYMONDHAM.

A mass of bulky manor rolls of Wymondham deserve more detailed examination than time has permitted; the bailiffs' accounts (as in the case of all these collections) being fairly numerous. An interesting pedigree tracing the title of Buckenham from D'Albini to the Knyvetts deserves mention.

I. HORSHAM ST. FAITH'S.

MANOR COURT ROLLS, 1265-1640; viz. Courts and Courts General and Courts with Lete for the years:—

Henry III. 49-55.

Edward I. 2-6.

Edward II. 5-20.

Edward III. 6-20 and 42.

Richard II. 3-10.

Henry IV. 2-14.

Henry VI. 1-37, 38, (36, 37 and 39 appear to be copies).

Henry VII. 1-24.

Henry VIII. 1, 3-17, 31, 34, 35, 36, 38, (3 is W. Castlety's first Court).

Edward VI. 1, 2, 4-6.

Mary 1, Philip and Mary 1-5.

Elizabeth 1-18 (6 is the first Court of Richard Southwell, *alias* D'Arcy), 30-39, 44, 45.

James I. 1-19, except 3. Sir Henry Hobart's first Court is James I. 10.

1631-1640.

Account Rolls:—1390-1509. Collectors and Messors.

Richard II. 13-23.

Henry IV. 1-3, 14.

Henry V. 1, 2, 4-9.

Henry VI. 1-39. "The accounts of Receivers of Rent for Richard Lord Prior of the Priory."

Edward IV. 2, 5, 6, 9-12, 16, 20, 21.

Henry VII. 2-17 (except 6 and 14), 20, 21, 23, 24. Also the Bailiff of Ryburghs for 23, 24.

Rolls of the Market Court, Hen. VI. 18-21.

Edw. IV. 1.

Bailiffs' Accounts, 1461-1545 :—

Henry VI. 39-40.

Henry VII. 23-24.

Henry VIII. 1-2, 5-6, 8-9, 11-12, 17-21, 26-27. 36 is the first Court of Will. Rogers, Alderman of the city of Norwich, “ad usum Marie Leche, uxoris Robert Leche.”

Cellarer's Account.

Henry IV. 2 (1401).

Priors' Receipts, 1408-1452 :—

Henry IV. 9.

Henry VI. 16, 25, 30. For the year 16: “Outgoings of Grange and tithes received from Haveringland.”

Extent (draft) of the late Priory lands, completed 4 Elizabeth (1562).

EXTRACTS FROM HORSHAM ST. FAITH'S MANOR ROLLS.

Betrothal without licence.

Presentant quod Sibilla Colbert et Radulfus le Savere affidaviturunt se adinvicem sine licentia, etc. Morrow of SS. Peter and Paul, 50 Hen. III.

Presentment of persons entertaining strangers without licence.

Seventeen tenants are presented “quia sunt consueti hospitari extraneos contra statutum curie.” Monday before St. Dunstan's day, 51 Hen. III.

Entry into the Homage.

Herveus Bele devenit hominem (*sic*) prioris reddendo annuatim pro capite suo unum caponem ad Natale Domini.

Item Levota fil. Willelmi piscatoris de Thaverham, similiter devenit hominem prioris reddendo annuatim pro capite suo unum caponem ad Natale Domini. Wednesday after Nat. B.M.V., 52 Hen. III.

Ysabell Brunville devenit hominem prioris et fecit feodagium priori et dabit annuatim pro chevagio unum caponem ad Natale Domini.

Presentment against the Millers.

Item presentatio totius soce de Roberto mollendinario et de Waltero mollendinario. Dicunt quod fraudulenter et inique curam mollendinorum eis in plena curia traditam custodierunt, et ad opus domini et totius soce incongruam adhibuere custodiam. Dicunt item quod male mollant et tonn[ant?]

Et ideo in misericordia. Et invenere plegios de misericordia et de pace reformanda eis qui conquesti sunt de ipsis. Plegii Walteri, Willelmus Crobert, Will. le Forester. Plegii Roberti, Will. Rust et Symon Lanke. Et dictus Robertus invenit plegios

Will. Rust et Symonem Lanke. Item dictus Walterus invenit plegios Johannem Pokoc, Robertum Eyward. Ita quod in hoc anno proximo venturo proficuum dictorum mollendinorum procurabunt tam de advenis quam de secta, et quod fideliter mollent et tonn[ent?] ad opus domini sine fraude facienda domino sive alicui alio.

Oath of Homage and licences of Marriage.

Memorandum quod Radulfus le Syrer devenit hominem Prioris et fecit sacramentum, et habet licentiam accipere in uxorem filiam quondam Alani Cole, scilicet Sibilam, et dedit vij^d, pleggio W. Holcot.

Memorandum quod Robertus cementarius fecit pacem cum Priore ut habeat licentiam accipere in uxorem filiam Matilidis Cole, et devenit homo Prioris et dedit ij sol. Monday before St. Gregory's day, 52 Hen. III.

Presentment of Brewers.

The capital pledges (who are not enumerated) present that all the brewers broke the assize. St. Peter's day, 52 Hen. III.

Complaint against a wife.

Henricus le Porter conqueritur de uxore sua Alicia de transgressionem. Pleggio Alano Coco ad prosequendum. Dicta Alicia atachatur se ad respondendum et invenit plegium W. Holcot. Tuesday after St. Dunstan's day, 53 Hen. III.

Grant of land in perpetuity at a capon rent.

Memorandum quod Berengarius prior et conventus Sancte Fidis de Horsham dederunt et concesserunt Viello garcifero suo et heredibus suis unam peciam terre sue, videlicet que vocatur Presteroft per metas positas, in qua pecia continet (*sic*) in longitudine sexaginta pedes et in latitudine duodecim pedes, pro servicio suo, habendum et tenendum sibi et heredibus suis in perpetuum; reddendo inde annuatim dicto priori et conventui et eorum successoribus ipse et heredes sui quolibet anno unum caponem ad Natale Domini pro omni servicio, consuetudine, exactione, et omnimoda seculari demanda. Data in curia apud Horsham die Martis proxima post festum St. Dunstani anno Regni Regis H. fil Regis Johannis quinquagesimo tercio, in tempore Berengarii Carbonel tunc temporis seneschalli.

Transgressions.

Memorandum quod capitales plegii presentant quod Willelmus le Frere cecavit (*secavit*) unum frenum contra defensionem et illud vendidit sine licentia domini Prioris.

Item presentant quod in curia Willelmi Hacun invenere magnum dampnum quod factum fuerit in alneto Prioris et de hayis fractis et hasportatis. Vigil of St. Andrew, 53 Hen. III.

Presentment as to freedom.

Capitales plegii presentant et dicunt cum aliis juratis quod W. Hacun non est liber, et quod non potest maritare filiam suam sine licentia, et quod ipsa debet solvere gersumam. St. Luke's day, 53 Hen. III.

Entering the homage on marriage.

Memorandum quod Petrus Swyft devenit hominem Prioris reddendo annuatim unum caponem pro omnibus consuetudinibus ad Natale Domini, et dat domino xij denarios ut maritaret Agnetem Cappe nativam Prioris. Plegg. Will. Holkot.

Building lease for life.

Memorandum quod Beatrix filia Alicie Henrici concessit Roberto Yve unam aream in tota vita ipsius R. super quam possit edificare in longitudine xl pedes et latitudine xxx pedes. Post decessum vero dicti Roberti, dicta area quiete revertetur una cum edificiis tunc in eadem inventis predictae Beatrici et heredibus suis. Et sciendum quod dicta area jacet inter messuagium Vielli in Upgate et messuagium Anse Croket; et dictus Robertus dat domino Priori vj. denarios. Friday after Epiphany, 53 Hen. III.

Marriage conditions on entering on land.

Johannes Colbert dat domini Priori vij^s. pro herieto terre ipsum contingentis, et etiam pro licentia habenda ducende uxoris ubicunque voluerit, et esse sine uxore quamdiu voluerit, excepto hoc quod si ducat aliquam de homagio Prioris quod ipsa faciat pacem pro se ipsa. Et seneschallus dicti Prioris posuit eum in plena seysina de predicta terra et fecit feutagium (*sic*) dicto Priori. Plegii de dictis vij^s. Henricus le Mey et Willelmus Rust. Tuesday before St. Hilary, 54 Hen. III.

Custody of an infant.

Margareta Lanke dat unum marcam domino Priori pro custodia Willelmi filii sui habenda usque ad etatem decem annorum, et pro licentia habenda maritandi filium suum predictum ubicunque et quandocunque voluerit. Salvo hoc, quod de consensu parentum ex parte patris et ex parte matris ducet uxorem, et dicti parentes videbunt catalla que debent dari in maritagium cum dicto Willelmo. Et dicta Margareta interim faciet consuetudines integre que pertinent ad tenementum dicti Willelmi et quod nullam faciet destruccionem arborum domorum nisi in emendacionem messuagii predicti Willelmi. Plegii de dicta marca solvenda et de predictis observandis Will. Lanke, Herb. Biscop, Will. Crobert, Henricus le Mey.

Becoming "Husband" of a tenement.

Memorandum quod Walterus Hering factus est husband de illo tenemento quod fuit patris et matris ejusdem Walteri, et positus

est in seysinam dicti tenementi, et fecit domino Priori feudagium, et dat domino Priori unam marcam argenti pro seysina dicti tenementi habenda, et etiam pro eo quod possit ducere uxorem quando voluerit et ubicunque, et esse sine uxore quamdiu voluerit, et quietus de herieto (etc). St. Mark's day, 55 Hen. III.

Villein claiming to be a freeman.

Willelmus Molendinarius in misericordia pro pluribus transgressionibus domino Priori factis, ut dicitur, videlicet pro eo quod debuit asportasse sepem circa nidum cingni reparatam, et de asportatione straminis pertinentis ad dictum nidum, et similiter eo quod dictus W. et parcenarii sui detinuerunt dicto domino Priori unum percarium [precarium?] suarum carucarum prout fecisse debuerunt, et etiam super eo quod idem W. dicebat se liberum hominem memorati domini Prioris cum sit villanus ejusdem Prioris, et ita negavit dominum suum coram seneschallo ejusdem domini. Plegii de misericordia Henricus le Porter et Symon Jolle. Et sciendum est quod dictus W. spontanea sua voluntate posuit se in misericordia ut predictum est. Morrow of SS. Peter and Paul [49 Hen. III.]

Presentatio capitalium plegiorum.

(Here follows a list of presentments, including several for wrongful encroachments in making footpaths.)

Item Matilda Spole in misericordia quod sine licentia domini Prioris hospitavit quasdam, scilicet., Anwyt[am] et fil. ejus.

Item presentant quod magister Gwydo et dominus Prior levaverunt quandam injustam foveam in itinere regali juxta domum magistri Willelmi.

Item presentant quod Robertus de Brie hospitavit quosdam in domo sua sine licentia domini Prioris.

Item presentant quod Radulfus faber desponsavit quandam mulierem sine licentia, &c.

Item presentant quod Sibilla Colbert et Radulfus le Savere affidaverunt se adinvicem sine licentia, &c. Morrow of SS. Peter and Paul, 50 Hen. III.

Fine for false petition.

Willelmus Cut in misericordia pro sua falsa petitione super hereditate Alicie filie quondam Roberti Pitans, quia omnes de curia dicunt quod dictus Willelmus non habet jus in petitione sua, et quod nullus alius heres habet jus ad eandem hereditatem nisi illa Alicia cum viro suo et filiis suis et filiabus, nisi Galfridus Pitans, frater dicte Alicie, de transmarinis partibus arripuisset. Plegius Alexander Cocus.

Preceptum est in curia sub pena duorum solidorum ut nullus hospitetur aliquem vel aliquam ultra duos dies et duas noctes. Court held by R. the Cellarer, feast of St. Scholastica.

[But at the very next court on St. Dunstan's day seventeen persons are presented as "consueti hospitare extraneos contra statutum curie."]

Compounding an assault.

Matildis le May in misericordia pro verberatione facta filio suo a filio Willelmi Mollendarii, quia reconciliati sunt per licentiam. Pleg. Will. Mollend. Court held by Berengarius Carbonel, rector of the church of Haveringlond, St. Bartholomew's day, 52 Hen. III. [1268].

CHARTERS.

[c. 1120-30 ?] SURRENDER and QUITCLAIM by ROLAND and SIMON, sons of WILLIAM the PRIEST of HELETUNE, of land and buildings in Heletune.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Rolandus et ego Simon filii Willelmi sacerdotis de Heletune resignavimus et concessimus et quietam clamavimus pro nobis et omnibus heredibus nostris Deo et ecclesie Sancte Fidis de Horsham et domino Austorgio Priori, et conventui ejusdem loci, totam terram que fuit Willelmi patris nostri in villa de Heletune et in campis de Heletune quam nos aliquando de eis tenuimus, cum omnibus edificiis et omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis, in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam, pro animabus patris nostri et matris nostre et omnium antecessorum nostrorum et pro salute animarum nostrarum et omnium successorum nostrorum, ita quod nos nec aliquis heredum nostrorum nec aliquis nomine nostro aliquid juris vel clamii in predicta terra de cetero habere aut ponere possit. Set tota predicta terra cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in proprios usus predictorum Prioris et monachorum integre et plenarie devolvatur. Et ad perpetuam eorum securitatem sigilla nostra huic scripto apposuimus. Hiis testibus: Willelmo de Sancto Martino, Radulfo de Erlham, Willelmo de Pynkeny, Hugone filio ejus, Godefrido filio Johannis, Radulfo de Seugham, Nicolao Bus, Radulfo de Chaineto, Willelmo filio Alani, Godefrido fratre ejus.

COPY [*temp.* Edw. I.] of the CONFIRMATION of a CHARTER of ROBERT FITZWALTER and SIBYL his wife (Founders *circa* A.D. 1106 of St. Faith's Priory) by their son WILLIAM DE KAYNETO (Cheyney), to the monks of Horsham, with grant of the advowsons of St. Martin le Bailey and St. Michael Berstrete, Norwich, &c.

Willelmus de Kaneto, filius Roberti filii Walteri, omnibus hominibus suis Francis et Anglicis salutem. Sciatis me concessisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse Deo et Sancte Marie et Sancte Fidi et monachis de Horsham terram de Helgheton et advocacionem ecclesie ejusdem ville cum homagio et aliis libertatibus in perpetuam elimosinam, sicut Robertus pater meus et Sibilla mater mea predictis monachis dederunt. Insuper ex propria mea donacione dono eisdem advocacionem ecclesiarum Sancti Martini in Ballia et Sancti Michaelis de Berstrete in Norwyco. Item dono eis totum alnetum quod jacet inter eorundem curiam et boscum meum ex una parte et viam

regiam ex altera, et inter terram Gilberti Wade et Gunny (*sic*) cum pastura interjacente, et molendinum cum stagno suo ex alia parte vie regie cum omnibus suis pertinenciis. Et volo et precipio ut bene et in pace omnia predicta teneant.

Testibus, Radulfo de Noers, Lamberto camerario, Alano armigero, etc.

COPY, on the same parchment as the preceding, of a GRANT and QUIT CLAIM by ROBERT SON OF ROGER (c. 1280-90) of a right of pasture in Gunnysmede, reciting a controversy apparently arising from the terms of the preceding grant.

Universis sancte Matris ecclesie filiis ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Robertus filius Rogeri dominus de Horsford et de Werkworth salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noverit universitas vestra, quod cum inter nos ex parte una et religiosos vivos fratrem Reymundum, Priorem Sancte Fidis de Horsham, et ejusdem loci conventum ex altera, controversia et materia questionis oriretur, scilicet de communia cujusdem prati in Horsham quæ vocatur Gunnyldesmedwe in quo quondam communiam ad animalia nostra et hominum nostrorum a festo Sancti Michaelis usque ad Purificationem Beate Marie virginis vendicavimus; Tandem ex nostra gratia speciali concessimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris, etiam quiete clamavimus, nominatis Religiosis et eorum successoribus communiam quam in dicto prato petebamus in perpetuum. Ita videlicet quod habeamus ingressum et egressum in dicto prato ad palicium nostrum cum necesse fuerit emendandum. In cujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum nostrum fecimus apponi.

ORIGINAL CHARTER of CONFIRMATION by MARGARET DE CHESNEY.

Universis sancte Matris ecclesie filiis ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Margareta de Chesneto salutem. Noverit universitas vestra quod ego Margareta de Chesneto et heredes mei debemus manutenere et defendere et warantizare domum Sancte Fidis de Horsham, videlicet personas monachorum et facultates et possessiones eorum, contra omnes, sicut patroni, et sicut puram et perpetuam elemosinam a patre meo et antecessoribus meis dedicatam Deo et Sancte Marie et beate Fidi Virgini ac martyri, et ecclesie Conchensi. Et in hujus rei testimonium presentem paginam sigilli mei appositione corroboraui.

Hiis testibus, Ada de Bedingfeld, Willelmo Peche, Toma de Sancto Audomero, Andrea Malherb, Turgys de Chesneto, Henrico de Hosa, Johanne de Poswic, Toma Bardolf, et multis aliis.

[c. 1140-50?] GRANT of LAND by THEOBALD HALTH[EIN].

Theobaldus Halth' omnibus hominibus suis Francis et Anglis salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse et hac presenti mea carta confirmasse Deo et Beate Marie et Sancte Fidi, et monachis de Horsham, xij acras terre in liberam et perpetuam helemosinam,

de dominio de Helesdh[on] quas pater meus eis in helemosinam dedit in brugario, videlicet quod est inter quinque hogas et terram quam dedicavit hospitali Ierusalem. Concedo quoque monachis prenominationis ex mea propria donacione viii acras terre in eodem brugario juxta predictas xij acras, in liberam et perpetuam helemosinam, pro salute anime mee, et anime Agnetis uxoris mee et pro salute animarum patris [mei] et matris mee et omnium parentum meorum. Hujus donacionis et concessionis sunt testes Walterus presbiter de Oxenede, Henricus frater domini Theobaldi, Theob. de Belhus, Robertus fil. Hug', Rogerus Dispensator, Petrus de Harch', Gislbertus, Willelmus Coqus, Alexander filius Eluuriz, Hugo, Raimondus nepotes Bertrandi Prioris et multi alii.

[c. 1160?] GRANT and CONFIRMATION by THEOBALD HALTEIN.

Notum sit omnibus Christi fidelibus quod ego Tedbaldus Haltein, filius Walteri Halt[ein], de consilio salutis mee et meorum, et concessu Angnetis uxoris mee, et voluntate filiorum meorum, dedi et concessi et presentis testimonio confirmavi carte, Deo et Sancte Marie et Sancte Fidi virgini de Horsham et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus et in perpetuum servituris, totam terram illam de dominio meo que est ultra stratam publicam que est a Norvico ad Horsseford per domum ospitalis sub Sutwuda, scilicet lxvij ci[r]citer acras, in liberam et puram et perpetuam elimosinam, pro salute Domini Regis H[enrici] et filiorum suorum et domini mei Humf[ridi] de Buun, et pro salute anime patris mei et matris mee, et pro salute parentum meorum et parentum uxoris mee A., et Johannis et aliorum filiorum et successorum meorum et omnium amicorum meorum, liberam et quietam ab omni servicio et seculari exactione et penitus absolutam, nichil de illa terra mihi vel heredibus vel successoribus meis retinens preter solam elimosinam. Pro hac autem donacione mea et concessione et confirmatione recepti sunt in communionem orationum et beneficiorum memorate ecclesie Dominus meus Rex H[enricus] et omnes filii sui, et dominus meus Humfr[idus] et omnes sui, et ego et A. uxor mea et liberi nostri, et omnes amici et benevoli mei. Et ego de beneficiis predictae ecclesie Sancte Fidis et fratrum ibidem Deo militantium accepi xxvij marcas argenti ad perficiendum peregrinationem meam in Ierusalem. Hanc quoque confirmationem meam sub presentia domini nostri Willelmi Norwicensis episcopi et clericorum suorum, et aliorum plurium ecclesie Sancte Fidis, et predictorum fratrum, per manum Bertrandi Prioris Sancte Fidis feci. Hiis testibus: Maistro (*sic*) Nicolao, Magistro Ricardo de Dreit', Galfrido capellano episcopi, Maistro Rogero, Maistro Amicio, Rad. de Schechet', Roberto filio Ricardi, Tedbaldo Walter', et Hamone fratre ejusdem, Everardo et Henrico fratres (*sic*) domini Tedbaldi, Galfrido de Hicheligge, Will. filio Engelrami, Waltero fil. Reg[inaldi], Augustino de Taverham, Rob. de Chent, Alexandro, Rogero filio Herberd', Rob. filio Hugonis, Hugone nepote Prioris, Reinmudus (*sic*) nepos suus,

Willelmo filio Scule, Alexandro janitore, Rob. de Toppesfeld, et Johanne clerico de Posswic, et Roberto capellano de Rendlesham qui hanc cartam scripsit.

There is a duplicate of this charter written in a much clearer and better hand, and free from the grammatical and other mistakes in the attestations. In this "Maistro" becomes "Magistro," Robert "de Chent" is "de Kent," Ralph "de Schechet" is "de Sceget," and "Will. fil. Scule" is "Will. fil. Escole."

[c. 1180-1190?] CONFIRMATION by WALTER SON OF ROBERT DE BASINGHAM* of a grant of Salt.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Walterus filius Roberti de Basingham dedi et concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Deo et beate Marie et ecclesie Sancte Fidis de Horsham et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, in liberam et puram et perpetuam elimosinam, pro salute anime mee et omnium antecessorum et successorum meorum, v wais (*sic*) salis in marisco de Maltebi, scilicet ad accipiendum in salina Edrici Hare, secundum mensuram marisci de Maltebi; quam salinam avus et pater meus eis dederunt in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam. Et istum prefatum Edricum et heredes suos istum redditum in perpetuum reddendum predictae ecclesie assigno. Ita quod ego nec heredes mei aliquam molestiam nec calumpniam prefato Edrico vel heredibus suis de predicta salina, de prefata ecclesia bene et in pace tenenda, inferre possimus; reddendo semper annuatim integre prenominationum redditum ad Nativitatem Sancte Marie. Et si ita contigerit quod prefatus Edricus vel heredes sui antedictum redditum reddere non valuerint, ego et heredes mei prefatum redditum integre et sine omni diminutione de aliis redditibus nostris in dicta villa de Maltebi ad predictum terminum eis reddemus et inde satisfaciemus. Et ego et heredes mei sepedictam elimosinam prefate ecclesie contra omnes homines eis warantizabimus. Et ut ista mea donacio rata et inconcussa in perpetuum permaneat, presentis scripti testimonio et sigilli mei appositione eam corroboravi. Hiis testibus: Hugone capellano Sanctae Fidis, Rodberto persona de Maltebi, Philippo de Verlt', Willelmo de Sundlond, Rodberto filio Scule, Symone preposito de Maltebi, Johanne milite, Ailmero filio Godwini, Willelmo de Winpou (?), Rodberto filio Sefredi, Bartolomeo de Nes, Osmundo de Nes, Bertrando de Wichingham, Huberto serviente Sancte Fidis, Ricardo coco, et multis aliis.

Fragment of seal; a horse courant.

[1240-50.] INDENTED DEED OF EXCHANGE between PRIOR BERENGARIUS and the CONVENT and RICHARD LE MOYNE.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit, Berengarius humilis prior Sancte Fidis de Horsam et ejusdem

* The grantor died in 1198.

loci conventus salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra nos unanimi assensu et communi voluntate Ricardo le Muyne de Norwico, filio Ricardi le Muyne defuncti,—pro decem acris terræ et dimidia quas idem Ricardus nobis et successoribus nostris et ecclesie nostre sancte Fidis in villa de Hyntewde dedit, concessit, et carta sua confirmavit, in perpetuum habendas et possidendas, quarum quinque acre jacent inter boscum Radulfi de Tyvile ex una parte et terram Rogeri de Stalam ex altera, et una acra jacet in cultura que vocatur Rokeshage inter terram nostram et terram Anabele Dunich (?), et tres rode jacent in cultura que vocatur Chirchecroft inter terras Radulfi de Tyvile ex utraque parte, et una dimidia acra jacet in eadem cultura inter terram nostram et terram Radulfi de Tyvile, et una roda jacet inter terram persone de Hyntewde et terram Johannis Bigge, et una acra et dimidia jacet in cultura que vocatur Lampitlond, inter terram dicte persone de Hyntewde et terram Rogeri Tubbing, et habuttat unum capud super communem pasturam, et una acra et dimidia jacent in cultura que vocatur Norgate inter terram Radulfi de Tyvile et terram Simonis de Kesewic,—dedisse concessisse et hac presenti carta nostra confirmasse decem acras et dimidiam terre nostre arrabilis in villis de Hyntewde, Manegrene, et Kesewic, de terra quam Johannes Gochop ecclesie nostre antedictæ et nobis dedit in perpetuam elemosinam, quarum due acre jacent in cultura que vocatur Surwong, inter terram ejusdem Ricardi le Moyne et terram Agnetis Puttoch, et due acre jacent inter terram Symonis de Kesewic et viam regiam, et habuttat unum capud super terram Henrici le Waleys versus haustum, et tres acre et dimidia jacent in cultura que vocatur Hunnolwesbrom inter terram Galfridi de Florindune et terram Ade le Neve, et una acra jacet inter terram Rogeri Hardekin et terram Sibille Lorewen, et habuttat unum capud super Egelunde, et una acra jacet in cultura que vocatur Larkebat inter terram Willelmi Carpentarii et terram Herberti de Managrene, et una acra jacet inter culturam que vocatur Hunolwesbrom et terram Emme del Hyrne, eidem Ricardo et heredibus suis in perpetuum escambium, sive plus contineant dicte pecie terre sive minus ultra numerum antedictum, habendas et tenendas de nobis et successoribus nostris et ecclesie nostre (*sic*) sancte Fidis libere, quiete, integre et plenarie, prorsus quietas et solutas ab omni servicio, consuetudine, secta curie, exactione et seculari demanda. Et nos et successores nostri predicto Ricardo le Moyne et heredibus suis predictas terras warantizabimus, defendemus, et acquietabimus, contra omnes gentes in perpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium et securitatem presenti scripto ad modum cyrographi indentato, quod residebit penes dictum Ricardum le Moyne, sigillum commune capituli nostri apponi fecimus. Alteri vero scripto quod residebit penes nos idem Ricardus sigillum suum apposuit. His testibus: Alexandro de Wallibus majore, et Alexandro filio suo, militibus; Willelmo le dene (?), Waltero de Karletune, Willelmo de Hylingtune, Radulfo de Tyvile, Mylone de Muletune, Radulfo de

Taseburg, Henrico le Waleys, Thoma filio Nicolai, Willelmo de Mangrene, Nicolao le Waleys, et multis aliis.

[c. 1250-60 ?] GRANT by WILLIAM DE MULLERS of Caldwell Mill.

Universis sancte Matris Ecclesie filiis ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Willelmus de Mullers, filius Hugonis de Mulers, eternam in Domino salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me divini amoris intuitu concessisse et dedisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse Deo et Beate Marie et ecclesie Sancte Fidis de Horsham et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus totum molendinum meum de Caldewelle propinquior [*sic*] de Tirninge versus le suth, cum aqua et stagno et secta et omni libertate integre et plenarie, sine omni retinemento, sicut illud unquam melius aut liberius in dominico tenui, in liberam et puram et perpetuam elemosinam, pro salute anime mee et Agnetis uxoris mee, et omnium antecessorum et successorum meorum. Quare volo et firmiter precipio ut predicti monachi prefatum molendinum habeant et teneant libere et quiete et honorifice ab omnicalumpnia et reclamazione de me et omnium heredum meorum (*sic*) in tantum quod nichil in illud (*sic*) retineo mihi vel heredibus meis preter solam elemosinam. Et prohibeo ne aliquis heredum meorum predictae ecclesie de prefata elemosina aliquam calumpniam aut molestiam aut contumeliam inferre presumat. Ego autem et heredes mei warantizabimus et defendemus predictum molendinum prefatis monachis cum omnibus supradictis pertinentibus contra omnes homines. Hanc igitur donacionem et concessionem feci consensu et consilio et bona voluntate Agnetis uxoris mee. Et ut hec mea concessio et donacio perpetue firmitatis robur optineat presentis scripti testimonio et sigilli mei appositione eam coroboravi. Hiis testibus: Rodberto filio Rogeri, Rogero de Cressi, Willelmo de Gisnei, Rogero de Kerdestun, Willelmo Pesche, Willelmo de Stallam, Rodberto Filiol, Rodberto filio Scule, Willelmo fratre suo, Hugone de Sancto Dionisio, Bertrando de Wichingham, Gervasio mercatore de Skothoth, Rogero Coco, Ricardo Peitevin, Benedicto de Lammesse, Radulfo de Lammesse, et aliis pluribus.

GRANT by SIR ROBERT HAUTEYN, knt., of right of pasture for 300 hoggets at Hellesdon.

Universis has litteras visuris aut audituris Robertus Auteyn, miles, salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra me caritatis intuitu et pro salute anime mee, patris mei, et omnium antecessorum et successorum meorum, dedisse et concessisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse, in puram et perpetuam elemosinam, Deo et ecclesie Sancte Fidis de Horsham et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, pasturam trescentorum bidentum in bruario meo de Heylisdune in perpetuum. Dicti vero monachi receperunt me in fraternitatem sui capituli et omnes antecessores et successores meos, et in omnia beneficia sua tam communia quam specialia. Et ego et heredes mei warantizabimus dictis

monachis et successoribus suis dictam pasturam contra omnes in perpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium huic scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus: Magistro Reginaldo de London, magistro Willelmo de Tukeby, Johanne capellano, Radulfo de Rudham, capellano, Roberto Auteyn, Henrico le Porter, Johanne de Camera, Simone Scule, et aliis.

Seal of arms; three . . . , in chief a label of five points; "Sigill' Roberti Hautein."

[1255-1265.] EXCHANGE between the ABBOT and CONVENT of LANGLEY and the PRIOR and CONVENT of ST. FAITH of two pieces of land in Ryveshale, each containing 6 perches in width and 43 in length, the perch containing 16½ feet.

Hiis testibus: Magistro Johanne de Alvechirche, Archidiacono Suffolchie, domini Norwicensis officiali, Ricardo de Witton, Will. de Gysinghe, Henrico de Sancto Paulo, Rogero de Hekingham, domino Henrico de Ryveshale milite, dominis Willelmo de Wendlinge, Galfrido de Lodnes, Reynero de Werthe capellano, Johanne filio dicti domini Henrici de Ryveshale, Rogero de Dicleburch, Johanne de Holebeche, Henrico le Neve, Waltero le Brun, Stephano Alvered de Ryveshale, et aliis.

GRANT of an acre in the field of HORSHAM, by SIMON SCULE, son of the late ROBERT SCULE of ST. FAITH's, to the PRIORY, for twenty-five shillings and sixpence.

Hiis testibus: Barthol. Cordel, magistro Thoma de Derham, Henrico janitore, Johanne Fraunceys de Spykeswrthe, Willelmo ad Ecclesiam de Spykeswrthe, Willelmo Palmer de Cattone, Rogero de Feletorp, Rogero filio sacerdotis de Cattone, Alexandro fratre ejus, Benedicto de Tungate, Waltero Aviz de Einford, Willelmo Sceth de eadem, et aliis.

RELEASE by HENRY DE BRADEFEUD, formerly porter of the Priory, of a messuage and 6 acres.

Sciunt presentes et futuri quod ego Henricus de Bradefeud, quondam janitor de Sancta Fide, remisi et quietum clamavi de me et heredibus meis in perpetuum totum jus et clamium quod habui aut habere potui in uno messuagio et sex acris terre cum pertinenciis in villa de Horsham, que habui de dono Austorgii quondam Prioris et Conventus Sancte Fidis de Horsham, que fuerunt Johannis le Careter et Margarete Rygeday uxoris sue, villanorum predictorum Prioris et Conventus. Ita videlicet quod ego dictus Henricus nec aliquis nomine meo aliquid de cetero inde poterimus exigere. In cujus rei testimonium huic scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus: Galfrido Rydel, Simone Scule, Johanne fratre suo, Willelmo le Curtays, Willelmo Huggemayden, Willelmo de Stanighale, Bartholomeo Cordel, Rogero de Feletorp, Willelmo le Palmer de Catton, Willelmo Gurnel, Willelmo de Spyheswrd, Willelmo Schet de Heinford, et aliis.

GRANT of land and a villein by ROBERT DE MARHAM.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Robertus de Marham concessi et dedi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Deo et beate Marie et ecclesie Sancte Fidis de Horsham et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, totam medietatem terre cum omnibus pertinenciis que fuit Roberti sacerdotis de Tirnigges, cum messuagio Willelmi sacerdotis de Tirnigges et prato ejusdem Willelmi clauso in Benetingesker. Concessi etiam et dedi predictae ecclesie absque ullo retinemento humagium Emme filie Ælurici cum omni sequaci progenie filiorum et filiarum, scilicet ipsam et totam progeniem suam in liberam et puram et perpetuam elemosinam ; [etc.]

Hiis testibus : Alexandro et Philippo capellanis de Sancta Fide, Willelmo de Miliariis, Richero de Huutewelle, Hugone Daubeni, Willelmo filio Rocelin, Alexandro persona de Tirninges, Matheo de Stred, Roberto et Willelmo filiis Scule, Roberto clerico de Scothoch, Eudone clerico, Henrico Mercatore, Willelmo filio Radulfi, Hunfrido de Tirninges, Waltero Coco, Roberto filio ejus, Willelmo de Belache, et multis aliis.

CONFIRMATION by WILLIAM PYLLECROWE of a grant by his grandfather of land in Brockdish.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Willelmus filius Nicholai Pyllecrowe de Brokedis concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Deo et monasterio Sancte Fidis de Horsham et religiosis viris Priori et Conventui ejusdem loci et eorum successoribus, in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam, totam terram quam Willelmus pater Nicolai patris mei dedit dictis Priori et Conventui Sancte Fidis in campo de Brokedis, que quidem terra quondam fuit Christine filie Willelmi Basseth, videlicet duas turneras in campo qui vocatur Seveneacris, in quibus turneris sex acre terre continentur, que jacent inter Wygate et terram que fuit Reginaldi de Brokedis, quarum una turnera abutatur super Ryvishalemerke versus boream et alia super terram quondam Willelmi predicti avi mei versus nothum (*sic*) ; [etc.]

Hiis testibus : Domino Johanne de Ryveshale, Mylone Pillecrowe, Reginaldo Pollard, Willelmo Alger, Rogero de Ketelleye, Will. Gundolf de Brokedis ; [etc.]

GRANT of twenty-five acres of land by JOHN and WILLIAM, sons of GEOFFREY PALMER, of Marlesford.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus presens scriptum visuris et audituris Johannes et Willelmus filii Galfridi Palmer de Marlesford salutem. Noverit universitas vestra nos concessisse et hac presenti carta nostra confirmasse et in puram et perpetuam elemosinam dedisse Priori et Conventui Sancte Fidis de Horsham viginti quinque acras terre, cum omnibus pertinenciis ad eandem terram spectantibus, que fuit Alexandri capellani le Fraunceis, et quam nos deracionavimus in curia domini Regis coram

justiciariis per breve directum contra Willelmum le Fraunceis ; et omne jus ad eandem terram spectans ad predictum Priorem et Conventum concedimus ; [etc.]

Hiis testibus : Johanne de Estrin, Willelmo Hamund de Estrin, Hugone serviente de Horsford, Willelmo Russel, Willelmo Curteis, T. Fowle, Adam le Schipper, Rogero Norreys, Stephano le Chanu de Tibenham, Simone le Frauncieys, Wydone rectore ecclesie de Sorpesti [Corpesti ?], R. de Tynkebi.

RELEASE by CECILY, relict of Richard the baker of the house of St. Faith, to the Priory of her right by reason of dowry in $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres and one rood in Westfeld, bounded by land called Westaker and Chaungedelond ; with a clause barring herself by her corporal oath, "tactis sacrosanctis evangeliis," against any future revocation "instigatione inimici." For this release the Priory gives eight shillings.

Hiis testibus : Domino Thoma Bardolf, Will. Burel, Petro fratre ejusdem, Steph. de Colne, Will. Pyam, Ric. Sket, Will. Russel, Radulfo de Cattone, Radulfo de Staninghale, Johanne de Wyniston, Johanne de Beston, Joh. de Salle, capellano, presentis instrumenti scriptore, et aliis.

[c. 1280 ?*] GRANT by ALAN SON OF JOHN DE REINHAM of villeins to the Priory.

Universis ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Alanus filius Johannis de Reinham salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra me in liberam et puram et perpetuam elemosinam dedisse et concessisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse Priori et monachis Sancte Fidis de Horsham, Ywinum de Sudgate de Hegletune et Isabellam uxorem ejusdem cum omni sequela eorundem, videlicet filiis et filiabus ab eisdem procreatis et procreandis et omnibus ab eisdem descendentibus, et cum omnibus terris, tenementis et catallis que de me et antecessoribus meis tenuerunt vel tenere debuerunt in villa de Hegletune et de Reinham, absolvendo eosdem et quietos clamando pro me et heredibus meis ab omni honore servitutis, auxilii, consuetudinis, et servitii in quibus mihi et antecessoribus meis vel successoribus tenebantur vel teneri potuerunt vel debuerunt. Ita scilicet quod ego vel heredes mei nichil juris aut clamii in predictis hominibus vel eorundem catallis terris vel tenementis possimus vindicare vel exigere in perpetuum. Et ne in posterum aliqua oriri possit contentio ratione alicujus pasture ab eisdem antiquitus use (*sic*) vel percepte, concessi eisdem et successoribus suis leberas (*sic*) pasturas et immunes ab omni exactione prestatione et auxilio, in omnibus locis in quibus averia eorum pascere consueverunt vel debuerunt in villa de Reinham vel de Hegletune. Ego vero et heredes mei warrantabimus predictam donacionem et quietam

* The grantor died before 1291. Blomefield's *Norfolk* (8vo edit.), VII, 143.

clammationem dictis priori et monachis contra omnes. Et ut hec omnia firma et inconcussa permaneant huic scripto sigillum meum apposui.

Hiis testibus : Magistro Constantino de Ley, magistro Reginaldo de Londiniis, Galfrido de Rudham, Willelmo filio Petri, Waltero Schule, Bartholomeo de Aldreford, Galfrido de Secheford, Nicolao Buis, Johanne fabro, Radulfo fabro.

Seal in brown wax; an eagle displayed; "Sigillum Alani fil. Johannis."

[c. 1280-90 ?] EXCHANGE of LAND.

Sciunt presentes et futuri quod ego Walterus clericus de Newetune filius Willelmi de Newetune concessi, relaxavi, quietam clamavi, et abjuravi in perpetuum de me et heredibus meis, Deo et beate Marie, et ecclesie Sancte Fidis de Horsham, et monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, in curia domini mei Roberti filii Rogeri, totum jus et clamium quod ego et heredes mei habuimus aut habere potuimus, aut habere poterimus, in quinque acris terre que quondam fuerunt toftum Walteri de Horsford, in villa de Horsham. Et pro hac relaxatione et quietam clamantia et abjuracione, dederunt michi predicti monachi, in excambium, quinque acras terræ in campis de Horsham ad valentiam predictarum quinque acrarum, et unum toftum quod jacet inter domum Walteri Brennekat et domum Godwini Lanke, videlicet tres acras in Longefurlond, citra cheminum acram et dimidiam, et ultra cheminum acram et dimidiam, et juxta toftum Willelmi le Mai unam acram et unam rodam, et tres rodas que abuttant super Derling. Et ut hec relaxatio et quietam clamantia et abjuratio rate permaneant et inconcusse, eam hujus scripti testimonio et sigilli mei appositione roboravi. Hiis testibus : Domino Roberto filio Rogeri, Alexandro de Dunham, Roberto de Kent, Galfrido le Gros, Willelmi Bataille, Rogero filio Willelmi, magistro Ada Daco, Waltero de Couele, magistro Hugone medico, Roberto capellano de Lings, Hugone et Johanne capellanis de Sancta Fide, Johanne de Stanford, Roberto filio Scule, et multis aliis.

Of this charter there is also a copy with the added confirmation of Robert Fitz Roger at the end. "Et ego Robertus filius Rogeri ad majorem hujus rei securitatem in hujus rei testimonium perpetuum, ad instanciam et petitionem predicti Walteri clerici de Newetune presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui." But the seal (in brown wax) is only "Sigillum Walteri Clerici."

[1280-90.] RELEASE by AGNES, widow of GEOFFREY LE SVEIN of St. Faith's, to Prior Raymund and the Convent, for the sum of two marks, of all her right in eleven acres of land which her late husband held of the Priory.

Hiis testibus: Domino Johanne de Strus, Rogero Feltorp, Willelmo Russel, Ricardo Sket, Herveo Burel, Johanne Lomb, Ricardo Pluket, Simone Scule, et aliis.

1524, March 10. Grant from William Castleton, Prior of St. Faith's, and the Convent, to John Greye, gent.; William Russel, citizen of Norwich, William Wolcy, William Birton, Robert Rynouse, John Burwode, and Robert Warden, and their heirs, of a Guild-house formerly built by and at the cost of Prior John Ryssley for the Guild of St. Andrew, "et pro potationibus ad [usum] ecclesie parochialis S. Andree de Horsham predicte in eadem domo tenend. et custodiend."

1525. CIRCULAR LETTER, sent with a bede-roll, requesting offerings and prayers for departed members of the Priory.

Omnibus Sancte Matris Ecclesie filiis ad quos presentes litere pervenerint Nos Johannes Stokes, permissione divina Prior monasterii Sancte Fidis de Horsham, et ejusdem loci conventus, ordinis Sancti Benedicti, Norwicensis diocesis (*sic*), salutem in Eo quem peperit uterus Virginalis. Si grata sit et laudabilis apud Deum compassio qua hic vivis pauperibus corporibus alimentum porrigitur, quanto commendabilior est apud Deum oblatio qua defunctis fidelibus panis vite qui de celo descendit proponitur, culpa quevis remittitur, et per precum suffragia defunctis in Christo venia, vivis in mundo gracia, et mortuis in celo gloria, feliciter comparatur. Divina siquidem clementia sic dignatur lapsibus humanus (*sic*) de congruo remedio providere, ut non solum peregrinantibus in via, verum etiam resolutis carne ad pene refrigerium per oblacionem Victimæ salutaris annuit benigne subvenire. Cum igitur salubre sit hic vivos reficere et defunctos in Domino per pias preces et hostias pacificas penis eruere, a culpis absolvere, et sanctorum consorciis post mortem aggregare, vestram rogamus et exortamus in Domino caritatem ut nostris in Christo mortuis quorum nonina vobis transmittimus oracionum suffragia et oblacionem (*sic*) solacia caritatis intuitu salubriter impendatis. Et Galfrido Metcalfe, latori presentium, ne deficiat in via, humanitatis officio favorabiles propicios et benignos prompta benignitate piaque munificencia liberales studeatis vos exhibere. Vestris equidem pro nostris reciproca vicissitudine volumus obligari. In cujus rei testimonium has literas patentes sigillo nostro communi fecimus appenso. Datum apud Horsham Sancte Fidis in domo nostro capitulari, vicesimo sexto die mensis Agusti (*sic*) anno Domini millesimo ccccc vicesimo quinto.

A small parcel of documents relates to the family of Burel of Horsham; viz. Hervey Burel, William son of Hervey Burel, Hervey son of William, and William Burel and Agnes his wife, in the time of Hen. III. and Edw. I.

There are about 77 other deeds relating to Horsham from the time of Henry III. to that of the Commonwealth.

BLICKLING.

MANORIAL AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

In 2 Ric. II. is the first court of Joan Holveston. In the next year is the first court of Thomas Gyssing, knight. This Lord continues during 4 and 5 Ric. II. The Lady Joan

Holveston appears to resume the manor in the 6th year till the 12th, when there is a precept to distrain the tenants for homage and fealty and to shew their titles.

At the next court, viz. on Friday, St. Katherine, 12 Ric. II., in accordance with this precept, “*ad istam curiam totum homagium veniunt et concedunt domine ex mera sua propria voluntate, pro recognitione predicta, x^s.*” The vicar of Aylsham, who seems to have held the mill, is three times threatened with distraint, but not after this last entry, which seems to be a compromise. The very elaborate and particular customary of the manor made in the 35th year of Edw. I. expressly states that no recognition is to be paid on the accession of a new lord.

LIST OF THE BLICKLING MANOR ROLLS.

COURT ROLLS:—Edward I. 29.

Edward II. For the years 2, 5, 14, 17. Besides two undated of this reign.

Edward III. 1-17, 19-21, 25, 34-39, 40, 41, 43, 46, 47 (with others defaced).

Richard II. 1-7, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 21.

Henry IV. 1-13. (3 is the first court of Richard Pycot, Agneta Fransham and of Henry, Bishop of Norwich,* “*ratione minoris ætatis Will. fil. Baudwini de Thaverham.*” 4 and 5 the court is held by Ric. Pykot, Agneta Fransham, William Taverham, Thomas Erpingham, knight, farmers of the dower of Eleanor relict of Nicholas Dagworth.)

Henry V. 4 and 9.

Henry VI. 8, 9, 14, 16-24, 25, 26, 28, 31-36, 39. Court General 49.

Edward IV. 1, 13, 22.

Edward V. 1.

Richard III. 1, 2, 3.

Henry VII. 1, 7, 8, 9.

Henry VIII. 18, 19, 31-33, 34, 37, 38.

Edward VI. 1-6.

Mary 1-5.

Elizabeth 1-14, (except 4) 17, 19.

And for the years 1622-36, 1639, 1640.

LEET ROLLS:—

Edward I. 34.

Edward II. 10, 13, 19, 23 (and other rolls with dates defaced).

Edward III. 16.

Richard II. 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16.

Henry IV. 1-8, 10-13. (8 is the first court of Thomas Langlee, Bishop of Durham, (Lord Chancellor) “*et sociorum suorum.*” 13 is the first Court of John Pelham, John Ingoldes-thorp, and Robert Barney, knights, co-feoffees.)

Henry VI. 9, 11-14, 16-28, 31-36, 49.

Richard III. 1-3.

Henry VII. 1, with view of frankpledge.

* Henry Despenser or le Spenser, Bp. of Norwich 1370-1407.

Henry VIII. 35.

Edward VI. 1-6.

Mary 1-5.

Elizabeth 1-14 (except 4), 15, 20.

James I. 9, 19.

And for the years 1632-1636, 1638-1640.

ACCOUNT ROLLS.

Edward III. Collectors' accounts for the years 25 and 26.

Henry IV. Bailiffs' accounts for years 11-13.

Henry V. 8.

Henry VI. Bailiffs and Collectors for 10 and 11.

Edward IV. 3-4, 7-8, 11-13.

Henry VIII. 6-7.

Elizabeth 6.

A Rental. *temp.* Henry IV.

CUSTOMARY OF THE MANOR, 35 EDW. I. [1307.]

Omnibus Christi fidelibus presentibus et futuris et ballivis et fidelibus suis Johannes Engayne salutem. Quia per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de manerio nostro de Blyclinge et eorum visneto, scilicet Roberti Sket de Erpingham, Johannis Baldewyne, Henrici de Yernemuth, Bricii Sweyne de Ingeworthe, Roberti de Caldewode, Thome de Rystone, Edwardi Carpentere, Willelmi ad Ecclesiam, Walteri filii Johannis ad Ecclesiam, Nicholai Passe, Jacobi Attewode, Roberti Kenyng, Godwyni et Valentini le Doo, Invenimus quod dictum manerium est de antiquo dominio corone domini Regis, et homines nostri tenentes de eodem manerio sunt sokemanni et tenere debent tenementa sua in eadem villa per fidelitatem et certa servicia et consuetudines subscripta annuatim nobis facienda et reddenda, Reddendo nobis et heredibus nostris annuatim triginta duas libras cum redditibus provenientibus de liberis tenentibus manerii predicti ad quatuor terminos subscriptos, Et reddendo annuatim pro nobis et heredibus nostris domino Norwyci Episcopo ad finem triginta duarum septimanarum tres solidos sex denarios pro warda castri, et eidem Episcopo scutagium domini Regis cum evenerit quantum pertinet ad feodum unius militis, Et facienda secta ad curiam nostram in eodem manerio de tribus septimanis in tres septimanas. Et nos tenebimus visum franci plegii in eodem manerio quolibet anno die Sancti Petri ad Vincula. Et habebimus amendas de omnibus transgressionibus factis in boscis, aquis separalibus, warrennis, hutesiis injuste levatis, sanguinis effusione, wayf, stray, catallis felonum et fugitivorum, rapinis, hamsoken, rescussu, thesauri et armorum inventione, et purprestura in separali nostro. Et omnes tenentes dicti manerii sokemanni habebunt amendas de omnibus aliis purpresturis in villa factis, de assiza panis et cervisie fracta, de falsis ponderibus, ulnis, mensuris, et omnibus defectis capitalium plegiorum et eorum decennariorum; et placita debent tenere omnium transgressionum et querelarum si prius querantur eis quam nobis

et inde amendas habere. Et ipsi homines ad proximam curiam nostram tentam ante festum S. Michaelis quolibet anno colligere (*sic*) debent collectorem, messorum, et duos custodes bosci, pro quibus respondere voluerint. Ita quod messor respondeat de omnibus attachiis et districtiionibus in dicto manerio faciendis. Et custodes bosci respondebunt nobis de omnibus transgressionibus in bosco et warennis factis et collectis de bosco et aliis proficuis bosci venditi. Et collector nobis respondebit de omnibus exitibus dicti manerii infra dictum manerium per rationabilem compotum ad quatuor terminos anni, videlicet ad festum Sancti Andree Apostoli, ad festum Annunciationis Beate Marie, et ad festum Nativitatis Sancti Johannis Baptiste, et ad festum Sancti Michaelis. Ita quod ad quemlibet terminum solutionis sue fidelem habeat acquietantiam. Et si in fine anni super compotum suum in arreragio fuerit, et inde ad solutionem non sufficiat, tota soca pro eo nobis respondebit.

Et ipsi reparabunt fossatam nostram circa boscum ne dampnum intus fiat defectu claustrum. Et nos sustentabimus et reparabimus sumptibus propriis molendinum nostrum in omnibus vectariis, salvo tantum cariagio unius mole per annum et reparatione stagnorum et encluserum, scilicet ad quod de terra operari debet. Et ipsi facient sectam ad molendinum nostrum. Et de jure molare debent ex antiqua consuetudine duo quarteria et dimidium frumenti vel ordeï pro dimidio bussalo ejusdem bladi et tria quarteria brasii pro dimidio bussalo brasii.

Et piscare debent in omnibus communibus aquis dicte ville. Et heredes dictorum sokemannorum post mortem eorum antecessorum, cujuscunque etatis fuerint, habere debent hereditates suas sine relevio, herietto, aut aliqua fine inde nobis facienda. Et si quis heres eorum post mortem antecessoris sui infra etatem fuerit, proximi parentes ejus quibus hereditas descendere non debet habebunt custodiam ipsius heredis et tenementi sui usque plenam etatem quindecim annorum. Et placitari aut implacitari non debent de tenementis suis infra dictum manerium nisi per parvum breve domini Regis de recto clauso secundum consuetudinem manerii nobis aut ballivis nostris directo. Et si in amerciamentis nostris inciderint tam per breve quam sine brevi per pares suos inde debent afforari. Et maritare debent filios suos et filias suas tam extra manerium quam infra sine licentiam petere aut aliquam finem inde facere (*sic*). Non debent chevagium dare aut recognitionem facere in adventu alicujus novi domini dicti manerii, neque gersumam dare pro mulieribus parientibus extra matrimonium. Et si quis eorum aliquod tenementum de bassa tenura adquisierit, in curia nostra finem faciet rationabilem pro ingressu inde habendo secundum antiquam consuetudinem, pro meliori acra campestri quatuor solidos, et pro mesuagio clauso et prato et pejori terra secundum valorem tenementi. Et non debent talliari ad aliquam talliagiam nisi quando dominus Rex facit talliari dominica sua per Angliam, et hoc per breve domini Regis. Et cum aliquis forinsecus infra

dictum manerium alicui mulieri heredi se maritaverit, ideo non faciet finem pro licentia ad ipsam mulierem ingrediendam.

Et quod de nullis consuetudinibus quam de predictis pro tenementis suis onerari debent.

Nos dictus Johannes Engayne dictas consuetudines approbantes, ratus habentes, volentes et concedentes, ex consensu Elene consortis nostre, pro salute animarum nostrarum pro nobis et heredibus et assignatis nostris, quod omnes dicti homines heredes de dicto manerio in perpetuum remaneant ut de antiquo dominio sicut compertum est, et quod habeant et teneant omnia tenementa sua predicta per predictas consuetudines et servicia predicta sine mutatione alicujus servicii aut consuetudinis. Et omnes alias consuetudines et servicia que vel quas ab eis exigebamus eisdem hominibus et eorum heredibus de nobis et heredibus et assignatis nostris remisimus et quietum clamavimus in perpetuum. Salvis nobis et heredibus nostris consuetudinibus et serviciis prenomminatis. In hujus rei testimonium his duobus scriptis in modum cirograffi confectis die Annunciacionis Beate Marie anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici tricesimo quinto, quorum parti penes dictos homines remanenti Johannes Engayne sigillum suum apposuit, et parti penes dictum Johannem remanenti dicti homines sigillum eorum commune apposuerunt.

Testibus: Johanne de Erpingham, Rogero de Calethorp, Johanne de Colby, Henrico filio ejus, Rogero de Woltertone, Johanne de Irmynghonde, Radulpho de Irmynghonde, et aliis. Datum per copiam.

Court holden there on Monday in the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula in the 7th year of Ed. II. (*Translation.*) *Mutilated roll.*

Head Borghs. John Attwode, John Skyppyng, Adam de Bondeker, John Impe, Ralph . . . , John Bemund, Adam Passe, Richard le Palmere, junior, Robert Prayd, John Haghene, John le Waler, . . . Ketchod, Thomas Belle, Stephen de Skothowe, Richard Keye, John le Munne, Henry Mort, Nicholas Sukke, Robert Rente, Will. Kythod, . . . Sworn.

Say upon their oath that John le Chusser ought to repair a certain well at Lund; therefore, etc. 6d.

And they present that Richard de Thorp drew blood of Thomas Wytlok against the peace, etc. 6d.

Also they present that Beatrice Prigge committed hamsoken on Maud Dolch by carrying away a belt of the said Maud from the house of the said Maud against the peace, etc. 3d.

And they present that Agnes de Thorpgate did not open a ditch through which water ought to have course; by reason whereof, etc. 6d.

Also they present that Thomas Wrchipe drew blood of Henry Grys. 6d.

Also they present that Reginald, son of Robert Sucke, "fecit vetitum Matillidi uxori Roberti Dolch de bidentibus . . . voluit inparcasse pro damno facto." 3d.

Also they present that the said Maud drew blood of the said Reginald ; therefore, etc. 3*d*.

Also they present that Simon Fyn broke a certain division between himself and Richard le Palmer in length . . . and unlawfully removed a certain boundary placed by the consent of the parties ; therefore, etc. 6*d*.

Also they present that Margaret, the daughter of Simon Spye, is an habitual thief in autumn time of the neighbours' corn and . . . and does great damage ; therefore, etc.

3*d*. Pillory.

Also they present that Margaret, daughter of Agnes of Matelask, is an habitual thief in autumn time of corn and all the year through is used to steal hens and do damage to the neighbours ; therefore, etc. And the said Agnes is a receiver ; therefore, etc.

Pillory.

Also they present that Beatrice, the wife of Semann the Smith, raised the hue and cry upon John Wodeman the hayward (*messorum*) unjustly ; therefore, etc. 3*d*.

Also they present that when John de Causton stood at his gate in the peace of the lady, thither came Richard and Robert, chaplains of the parson, with two forks and atrociously assaulted the said John ; whereupon John for fear of the assault raised the hue and cry upon them lawfully, but did not follow them to the hall because John the servant of the lady was present and Thomas. 1*s*.

And John de Causton, because he raised the said hue and cry and is not present, and therefore he is amerced. 6*d*.

Also they present that John Payn is a common fisher, fishing on the lady's banks.

Also they present that William Figge brewed and broke the assize ; therefore, etc. 6*d*.

Also they present that Will. Wildun did the like. 2*s*.

Also they present that Reginald le Palmer did the like. 1*s*.

Also they present that John Skipping did the like. 1*s*.

Also they present that Nicholas Caterine did the like. 1*s*.

Also they present that Adam Godsone did the like. 2*s*.

Also they present that Cecily Salve . . . but she is dead.

Also they present that Agnes Salve brewed four bushels. 6*d*.

Also that Agnes Grand did the like. 6*d*.

Also that Elviva Keninge did the like. 1*s*.

Also that Edmund Larke is a baker and broke the assize. 6*d*.

Also that Roger Rose did the like. 6*d*.

Also that Adam Bateman is a regrator ; therefore, etc. 3*d*.

Also that Nicholas Ffre is the like. 3*d*.

Also that Simnel Lewyn is the like. 3*d*.

Also that Margaret Edes brewed and broke the assize. 3*d*.

It is also presented that Robert son of John Demund, the parson's servant (*manupastus*), arrested Roger Hullerd with his cart on the King's highway and detained him by night against the peace, etc.

Also they present that Richard the Chaplain, attorney of the parson, prosecuted Roger Hullerd in a Court Christian about matters which do not concern our testimony. They are agreed.

Also that the said Richard prosecuted Hugh le Mune in the same way.

Also that Richard the parson has encroached upon the highway with a wall built 22 feet in length and a foot in breadth. 2s.

Also that Richard the parson's chaplain is an usurer 40d.

Also that the said Richard dug the King's highway and made it beyond measure deeper than before, to the great hurt of the whole vill. 6d.

Also that John de Thorp dug the King's highway and deteriorated it, to the detriment of passengers. 6d.

Also that Robert Luue ploughed under a certain division between the said Robert and John Impe to the length of sixteen feet. 6d.

And that Estrilda Prigge damaged the corn of her neighbours throughout the summer. 3d.

And that Margaret, daughter of Richard Grys, is an habitual doer of damage to her neighbours in summer. 6d.

And that John son of Beatrice entered the house of William Kytot and did damage to the amount of 6d. 3d.

And that Mariota wife of William Schirlok is a habitual doer of damage to hens and other things of the neighbours. 3d.

And that John Freysell and John his brother, John le Pillemere, and Nicholas son of Hugh, and John Payn came by night to the lady's closes for eels, against the peace, etc. 1s. 3d.

And that William de Holt fished on the lady's bank.

And that the Master of the Hospital did the like. 2s.

And that Thomas and Ralph sons of Richard son of Adam did the like. 1s.

And that Henry de Colby did the like. 2s.

And that the son of Payn Meye did the like. 10d.

And that Ralph the baker did the like. 6d.

And that the willows on the side of the sacrist of St. Edmund hang on the bank and hinder the course of the river so that the (fields) on that side of the village are inundated and submerged, to great damage, etc. 6d.

And that William Lytot and John Chusser, assayers of beer, did not fulfil their office as they ought; therefore, etc.

And that John Skyppeyng brewed honey mead and sold it contrary to the assize.

And that Roger Palmer did the like.

And that Richard Waller came within the liberty of the lady and took one cow of John G . . . and drove the said cow to Irmingland, to the great prejudice of the lady and her liberty; therefore, etc.

[There are a few more entries, of which the following are the more noticeable :

“ All the capital pledges, for concealment, because they did not make their perambulation to the tenement between the lady and

Edmund the carpenter to see the boundaries broken between them, as had been ordered in the Court.

John son of Roger Adyolf is accustomed to take chicken (*pulcinas*) and capons with nets which Robert Keye had at the lady's mill.

Juetta the wife of Richard le Palmere is an usurers, and sells at a dearer rate for accommodation.

And they ask to distrain the said Juetta to answer to the lady about the said usury."']

EXTRACTS FROM THE COURT ROLLS.

Taking the order of Exorcist without licence.

St. Peter ad Vincula, 13 Edw. II.

Preceptum est, sicut pluraliter, attachiare Andream Wardeyn per corpus suum eo quod cepit ordines exorciste sine licentia.

Levy for fabric of the church.

Tuesday after St. Barnabas, 13 Edw. II.

Preceptum est messori levare de communitate agistamentum ad fabricationem ecclesie ad opus Roberti Keye.

Prescriptum est levare de communitate agistamentum ad fabricationem ecclesie ad opus Roberti Keye eo quod pacavit pro eis et delib. . . . nomina eorum messori per billam.

Presentment of the Bishop.

3 Ric. II.

Present. est domine quod Episcopus fecit unum cursum aque apud Hallemewe in aysiammentum plus vicinorum.

Of the Vicar of Aylsham.

Present. quod Ricardus vicarius de Ailsham exaltavit stagnum suum in ponendo blestas altius quam facere debet in . . . mergendo fossata de feodo domine injuste, etc.

Item present. quod predictus Richardus fecit purpresturam super pratum Johannis Impe ponendo . . . ad exaltandum vivarium aliter quam facere debet ad prejudicium domine, etc.

(This Richard was a benefactor to St. Peter's Coll. Camb.)

Swearing in of youths to the Tithings.

St. Peter ad Vincula, 5 Ric. II.

Nicholas filius Ricardi Kethod juratus est in decennium.

Johannes Kethod filius Johannis Kethod juratus est similiter.

Johannes filius Nicholai Kethod juratus est similiter.

Poaching.

12 Ric. II.

[Presentant] quod Johannes de London, capellanus, fugatus fuit infra warrennam captando lepores.

Leaving the manor.

St. Agnes, 12 Ric. II.

Robertus filius Symonis Fygge nativus domini est fugitivus et manet extra dominium, etc., et ubi ignorant, etc., et precipitur seisire [per] corpus.

Robertus filius Johannis Froysel nativus domini de sanguine, similiter et similiter, et manet in villa de St. Botulph; ideo pres. etc.

Robertus fil. John Wederall nativus domini similiter et similiter, et manet in Hemesby.

Johannes filius Roberti Altholf, et Thomas et Radulfus fratres ejusdem Johannis sunt similiter, et manent in Cleye, et Radulfus manet in Salle, et precipitur similiter.

Pleading in a Court Christian.

15 Ric. II.

Item quod Johannes fil. Thome Wattys injuste vexavit Robertum Fanmakere in curia Christianitatis.

Tuesday aft. St. Agnes, 16 Ric. II.

Item quod Joh. Melior injuste vexavit Johannem servientem Johannis Love in curia Christianitatis pro re tangente curiam regalem; ideo precipitur est seisire omnes terras et tenementa que idem Johannes tenet in villenagio domini.

Poacher's assault on a keeper.

Distringere Radulfum filium Johannis de Irmynghland ad respondendum, eo quod fecit rescussam Roberto Berte, custodi bosci domini, de duobus leporariis, et ipsum verberavit et male tractavit contra pacem, etc.

Regrating.

15 Ric. II.

Quod Johanna Parys junior est regratrix panis et vendit contra assisam.

1368. Henry de Berneye, William de Qualissal (?), and Thomas Hervy, grant to Sir James Holveston, and Joan his wife, the manor of Blicklyng to hold to them and the heirs male of the body of Sir James; remainder to Sir Nicholas Dagworth and the heirs male of his body; remainder to the rightful heirs of Sir James Holveston. 42 Edw. III.

1373. Indenture between James de Holveston and Johanna his wife, of the one part, and John de Colby of the other part.

Compounding a dispute about the flooding of Holveston's land by the misuse of Colby's water mill at Ingworth. (*In French.*) Friday, St. Andrew's day, 47 Edw. III.

1415. Roger Brekes and William Annes, churchwardens of Blickling. Declaration of trust of three roods of land in one piece in Blickling at the Kirkegap, adjoining the common path through the churchyard on the east. To remain for ever a garden of the church of Blickling and all parishioners of the said church. Tuesday after Nat. B.M., 3 Hen. V.

1444. Edward Love of Bliclyng grants to Richard Chever and others all his messuages in Bliclyng called Bertrams, otherwise Dygardes, with right of keeping two running dogs to catch foxes, and liberty of foldage, bull and boar; and other tenements. Conditionally on payment of 160*l.* 1 Sept., 23 Hen. VI.

1448. Henry Inglose, knt. and John Lynford, release to John Fastolf, knight, all their right in the manor of Bliklynge, and a piece of land containing 7 acres which they had together with the said John Fastolf and others. 21 Sept., 27 Hen. VI.

1448. Sir William Oldhall, knt. releases to many co-feoffees his right in the preceding land, as conveyed in a feoffment of 7 July. 3 August, 27 Hen. VI.

1506. Wm. Multon, clerk, at the special request of Thomas Boleyn, son and heir and executor of the will of Will. Boleyn, knt. demises to Richard Davy, clerk, Robert Davy, his brother, Thomas Semann, clerk, and Thomas Lanyon, junr., all the messuages in Bliclyng which he held with Robert Heyles, and 2*d.* rent. 9 Nov., 22 Hen. VII.

[1551], March 3, 5 Edw. VI. Covenant for the conveyance by Sir James Boleyn, knt. to "the right noble ladie Elizabeth, daughter of the late King of most famous memorie, King Henry VIII., sister of our Soverayne Lord King Edward VI.," of all his manors, lands, &c., in Heveningham, Marsham, Buxton, and various other places in Norfolk.

1554. Sir James Boleyn, knt., and Dame Elizabeth his wife and Sir John Clere on the one part, and John Mason, of Erpyngnam, on the other part; lease of Blicklyng Mill for 60 years, reciting that James Boleyn and Elizabeth his wife were seized of the manor of Blikling with remainder to Sir J. Clere. 7 Sept., 1 and 2, Ph. and Mary.

1554. Conveyance by Edward Lord North and John Williams of the advowson of Blykelyng to Sir John Clere and Edward Clere. 22 Oct., 1 and 2, Ph. and Mary.

1558. Probate of will of Thomas Wilkinson, of Blickling.

Chancery Order in a suit between Sir John Fastolf and Geoffrey Boleyn respecting the purchase of the manor of Blickling.

Beit remembred that the Tewesday the v. day of Septembre the yere of the reigne of our soveraigne lord King Henri the sixte . . . apperid afore my Lorde Cardynall the Chauncellor

of Englande at Fullham Sir John Fastolf, knight, and Geffrey Boleyn, Alderman of London, with both theire counselles, where it was desired at that tyme for the partie of the said Sir John the delivery of two obligations eyther of them of the summe of x. marc, thenne beyinge in the kepyng of Master Thomas Eborall, and also a dede of an annuite of marc xx. and iiis. &c., agenste the which desire it was answered for the partie of the said Geoffrey that the saide obligations and dede of annuite oght noght to be delyvered to the said Sir John afore that he hadde fulfilled diverse conditions conteyned in certeyne Indentures thenne rehersed, and the tenour of theyme redde by Byllyng, Recorder of London, afore my saide Lorde, the whiche conditions as it was thenne surmytte for the partie of the said Geoffrey in no wise wer perimplissht, and in especiall a defaute was assigned in the nonne delyvery of certayn stuffe of shepe and other that the saide Geoffrey oughte to have with his purches of the manour of Bliclyng, accordyng to the saide indentures, etc., and the nonne attournement of diverse tenants holdyng of the saide manour. Wherto it was replied and sayde by som of the counsell of the said Sir John that he had no noumbre of shepe at his first purchas of the said manour, and thenne my saide Lord answered and rehersed that thendenture specified that the said Sir John hadde solde to the saide Geoffrey the saide manour with the stuffe of shepe and other, etc. And also how the same Sir John as it was thenne declared for the partie of the said Geoffrey hadde sent by his letter to Bliclyng aforesaide to his servant there to delyvere to the said Geoffrey dlix. shepe. Wherefore my saide Lorde thenne saide that hym thoght it accordyd noght well to make any suche allegeaunces, and so in conclusion forasmuche as it was thoght that the saide Sir John oghte of reason to delyvere the stuff of shepe and other accordyng to the saide indenture and also the other condicions in the same indenture specified trewly performe, etc., it was agreed at the laste for the partie of the saide Geoffrey at the reverens of my saide Lordes' lordship that the dede of annuitie and one of the saide obligations sholde be delyvered to the saide Sir John, and that other obligation to remayne styлле with the saide maister Thomas to [sic] the said stuff were delyvered and the other conditions in the saide indenture specified performyd, etc., and that Haydon and Genny the elder sholde examyne and make reporte of the noumbre and value of the said stuff, etc.

HEVENINGHAM.

MANOR ROLLS.

An undated Roll of Henry III. ?

Edward I. For the years 6-21, 25, 26. The 25th is the 9th of the Pontificate of R. (Walpole), 1297.

Also for Cattes manor 4-7.

Edward III. 2, 3, 5, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17. 2 and 3 are the 4th of the Pontificate of W. (Ayermin or Armine), 1329. 13, 14 and 16 are the 2nd, 4th and 6th of the Pontificate of Anthony (Bek).

There are "Letes" for the years 2, 5, 14, 16.

Richard II. 1, 2, 3, 5-23, except 12 and 15. That of the year 5 has this note:—

"Prima curia ib. tent. die merc. prox. post festum Sta. Petri ad Vincula anno Regis Ricardi II. post conquestum quinto, postquam rotuli curiæ, custumaria, rentale et rotuli sectæ curiæ, et alia monumenta dicti manerii cremati fuerunt per tenentes Domini et alios communes quando communes comitatus Norf. et aliorum com. surrexerunt contra pacem domini et magna dampna fecerunt, etc."

18, Catts manor.

Henry IV. 1-14. 2 is the 31st of Episcopate of Henry le Despencer, 1401; at his court in 3 John Spencer and others are farmers of the temporalities. (2, 10, and 11 are also Lete courts.)

Henry V. 1 (Lete). 2-10. 3, First court of the King on escheat following the death of Courtenay, Bishop of Norwich, 1415. A° 4 is the first general court of Bishop Wakering, 1417.

1-3 also Catts manor.

Henry VI. 1-38 (Courts, Courts General, and Letes). 7 is the 2nd court of Bishop William Alnwick, 1429; 15 is the first court of Bishop Thomas Brown, 1437; and 27 is the 4th year of Bishop Walter Lyhert, 1449.

Also Cattes manor, 4, 5-8.

Edward IV. Courts and Courts General, with separate jurors for Parkhalle, Ryptonhall and Keritoft, 1-3, 8-12. (Letes, Hevingham cum Marsham, 1-6.)

Catts manor, 19-23.

Richard III. Catts manor, 1.

Henry VII. 1-24.

Henry VIII. Marsham cum Hevingham and Hevingham Courts, and Marsham cum Hevingham Letes, 2, 3, 5-11, 13, 15-30 (Anno 30 is Marsham Regis and Hevingham Regis), 31 (first court of James Boleyn), 32, 33, 34 (cum visu franciplegii), 36, 37, 38.

Cattes manor, 1-37.

Edward VI. 4, 5 Hevingham; Hevingham cum Marsham, 1-6.

Philip and Mary.

Cattes manor, 3-6.

Elizabeth. 1, 2, 4-8, 29-34, 37, (17, 18 is the court of W. Yaxley). Also a roll for the year 1564.

Catts manor, 1-8, 17, 18, and between 32 and 42.

James I. 4, First court of Sir H. Hobart.

ACCOUNT ROLLS.

- Edward III. Provost's and Messor's accounts for years 2, 3, 6-18, 36, 40, 41. (18 is the 1st year of the Episcopate of W. (Bateman) Bishop of Norwich.)
 Farmer's accounts, 20-21.
 Bailiff's accounts, 27-28.
- Richard II. Provost's account for year 13 and 14.
 Bailiff's account, 20-21.
 Account of works (task), 23 to 1 Hen. IV.
- Henry IV. 1, Account of work (tasks).
 Ripton and Critoft manors. Messor's account for years 5 and 7.
 Cattes and Ripton manors. Messor's account, years 11 and 12. Account of work (tasks).
- Henry V. Messor's account for years 2 and 3 (Parkhalle).
 (Hevingham cum Marsham.) Bailiff's account for years 5 and 6.
- Henry VI. Bailiff's account for years 23, 24, 27, 28.
 (Rypton.) Bailiff's account, 8 and 9.
 (Parkhalle.) Messor's account, 15 and 16.
 (Critoft.) Messor's account, 24 and 25.
- Edward IV. Provost's and Messor's accounts, 2 and 3, 8 and 9, 9 and 10.
- Henry VII. Messor's account, 16 and 17. (The account of John Helwyn, deputy. Same date, like account of Robert Bushop.)
 (Hevingham cum Marsham.) Provost's and Messor's accounts, 8.
- Henry VIII. Messor's account for year 24 (John Martyn).

MANOR ROLLS.

- 1381-2. *Ripton Hall*. Rental, Richard II. 5.
 Customary, Rich. II. 8 ?
- 1384-5. *Parkhalle Manor*. Customary and Rental, Rich. II. 8, taken before Henry Cat, Lord of the Manor, and his tenants.
1444. *Hevingham*. Rental, Hen. VI. 22. In part renewed, Hen. VIII. 1.
1444. *Hevingham Cattes*. Rental and Customary, endorsed Hen. VI. 22. (Also an extract of an ancient extent undated.)
1500. *Hevingham Critofts*. Customary, Hen. VII. 15.
1534. *Hevingham with Marsham*. Abuttal and Rentals, Henry VIII. 26.
1544. *Hevingham Cattes*. Book of Demesne Lands, Henry VIII. 36.
1569. An abuttal of Andrew Thetford, Esq. His free lands in *Hevingham filde*, 1569. (Formerly Master's.)
1598. *Hevingham*. Rental endorsed E.T. 1598. .
 Tenant Rolls of the manors of Hevingham, Repton or Rypton Halle, Crichtots, etc. (undated).
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1347-48. Account of Geoffrey Horsford, servant of Sir Constantine [Mortimer], for the manor of Hevingham, from Mich. 20 to Mich. 21 Edw. III. The year before the Black Death.

* * * * *

Idem re[cepit] de xxxvi quarteriis bladi multure r[eceptis] de firma duorum molendinorum quorum unum ventricum et aliud aquaticum per annum. Summa xxxvi. qu.

De quibus, liberat. Johannis Randolph, tenentis, carucantis ab in crastino S^{ti}. Michaelis usque diem Veneris proximum post festum S^{ti} Johannis ante Portam Latinam per xxxii septimanas, iii dies, iii qu. ii bus., capientis quarterium per x septimanas.

In lib. unius tenentis carucantis per totum annum preter iiii septimanas in autumpno iiii quarterios vi bus., capientis quarterium per x septimanas. In lib. ii fugantium carucantium ab in crastino S^{ti}. Michaelis usque diem Veneris prox. post f. S^{ti} Johannis ante Portam Latinam per xxxii septimanas et iii dies et a festo Nativitatis beate Marie Virginis usque festum S^{ti}. Michaelis per iii septimanas vi quarteria, quorum quilibet capiat quarterium per xii septimanas. In lib. J. Daye per totum annum iiii quarteria ii bus. dim. capientis quarterium per xii septimanas. In lib. i [unius] bercarii per idem tempus v quarteria ii bus. et dim. capientis quarterium per x septimanas. In lib. i herciatoris per xiv sept. et tres dies i qu. ii bus. iii p. capientis quarterium per xii sept. In lib. i porcarii a festo S^{ti}. Michaelis usque diem lune proximum post festum Augustini in Maye per xxxiii sept. et iii dies, ii quar. iv. bus. p. capientis qu. per xiii sept. Item lib. eidem versus Burnham pro porcis domini ibidem custodiendis iiii bus. precepto domine. In lib. i aucarum custodis, custodiendis bestiis in Heselholt ii bus. In lib. Willelmi Soukis, custodiendis bestiis in Heselholt in estate vi. bus. In pane frumenti pro stotis tempore sementis ordeï vi. bus. Item datur Henrico precepto domine ii. . . . Item datur Johanni Randolph ii bus. precepto domine. Item datur Thome de Midilton i bus. precepto domine in expensis autumpnalibus ii qu. iiii bus. In venditione i quar. ut in fr. Item allocatur pro stacione molendini aquatici per unam xiv^m. iiii bus. Item in stipendio i garciferi euntis ad carucandum ante festum Natalis Domini per iii sept. ii bus.

[c. 1250?] EXTENT of the MANOR of HEVINGHAM.

Episcopus Norwic. *est capitalis dominus villæ*. [Words added.]

Episcopus Norwic. habet in eadem villa unum messuagium et unum parcum [stagnum continentem. ii acras infra clausum:—*words struck out*] unam acram terre arabilis in dominio.

Villani ejusdem.

Habet quinque villanos qui tenent v messuagia et xxvii acras terre.

Tenentes.

Will. de Parco tenet unum messuagium xl acras terre arabilis, unam acram prati, unum molendinum aquaticum, cum stagno, de episcopo Norwic.

Villani.

Idem Will. habet ij villanos qui tenent ij messuagia et unam acram terre.

Cotarii.

Idem Will. habet v cotarios qui tenent v. cotagia.

Liberi tenentes ejusdum Willelmi.

Henry de London tenet 1 cotag. et reddit iij^d.

Galfridus Craske tenet 1 cotag. et reddit v. den.

Rich[erus] de Pagrave tenet medietatem unius messuagii et 1 acram terre, et reddit per annum iij^d ob.

Ricardus Faber tenet unum messuagium et dim. acram terre et reddit per annum xx^d.

Willelmus fil. Christiane tenet unum cotag. et reddit iiij^d.

Agnes Bonpayn tenet unam cotag. et reddit iiij^d.

Et dictus Will. tenet predictum tenementum, villanos, cotarios, et liberos tenentes de episcopo Norwic. per socagium, et reddit xi sol. x^d ob.

Willelmus le Kat tenet xxiiij acras terre.

Richerus de Pagrave tenet de eodem Will. i acram terre et reddit iiij^d ob.

Johannes fil. Ade de Hipeton tenet acram terre, et dat per annum iiij^d. Et dictus Will. tenet predictum tenementum et liberos tenentes de episcopo Norwic., et reddit per annum ij^s. vj^d ob., et tenet per socagium.

Andreas de Bramton tenet v villanos qui tenent v messuagia et viij acras terre, et tenet de episcopo Norwic. et dat per annum ij^s. iiij^d.

Rich. de Pagrave tenet unum acram terre de episcopo Norwic., et reddit per ann. pro se et pro Joh. fil. clerici vj^d ob.

Johannes fil. clerici tenet dim. acram terre de Rich. de Pagrave et dat per ann. iiij^d.

Et dictus episcopus est patronus ecclesie de Hevyngham, et ecclesia habet in proprios usus xx acras terre et unum messuagium et unum villanum qui tenet ij acras terre.

Will. Olok tenet j rodam terre et dat per annum j^d.

Will. fil. Simonis tenet dim. acram terre et reddit iiij^d.

Et idem Episcopus habet visum franciplegii [aprum, taurum, wayf de aver. extranea, furcas, thumerell ; *struck out*]. Et tenet totum predictum tenementum cum libertatibus et predictos villanos cotarios et libere tenentes cum eorum tenentibus de Domino Rege per baroniam episcopatus Norwic.

Dominus Rex.

Andreas de Branton (*sic*) tenet decem villanos qui tenent decem messuagia, lx et xiiij acras terre, et unum cotarium qui tenet unum cotagium, et tenet predictos villanos, cotarium, de domino Rege de manerio de Aylesham de antiquo dominico pertinente ad suum manerium de Branton, quod quidem manerium tenet per servic. xv · et viij^d.

Willelmus de Ecclesia et ejus tenentes tenent xij acras terre de Andr. de Brantone et reddunt per annum xij^d. [De] rege sed quo waranto et per quod servicium jurati nesciunt. [*Last clause struck out.*]

Rich. Cucuk et parcenarii sui tenent x acras terre et unum messuagium. Idem habent unum cotarium qui tenet unum cotagium. Et tenent de Domino Rege de manerio de Aylsham de antiquo feofamento, et reddunt per an. iiij^s. iiij^d.

Thomas Faber et parcenarii sui tenent iiij acras et dim. terre de Domino Rege, et reddunt per an. viij^d.

Thomas fil. Galfridi tenet iiij acras et dim. terre de Domino Rege, et reddit per an. viij^d.

Et tenent de manerio de Caustone de antiquo feofamento.

Comes Glovernie.

Willelmus le Chat tenet unum messuagium, lx acras terre et ij acras prati. Idem habet xiiij villanos qui tenent xiiij messuagia, quater viginti et xij acras terre arabilis. Item habet iiij cotarios qui tenent iiij cotagia.

Isti subscripti tenent de Willelmo le Kat. Liberi tenentes ejusdem Willelmi.	{	Rich. de Pagrave tenet dim. messuag. unam rodam et dim. terre, et reddit per ann. vj ^d .
		Henry le Blunt tenet unam acram et dim. terre, et reddit per an. iiij ^d .
		Willelmus fil. Walteri tenet unum messuagium et vj acras terre, et reddit per an. iiij ^d .
		Willelmus de Ecclesia tenet unum messuagium et iiij acras terre, et reddit per an. iiij ^d .

Et dictus Will. le Kat tenet predictum tenementum, villanos, cotarios, et libere tenentes de comyte Glovernie per scutagium scil. ad xl. sol. quinque sol, ad plus plus, ad minus minus, et tenentes dicti Co[m]itis *debet pro tenemento suo* [words interlined are substituted for those in italics] [debent] unam sectam hundredi de Erpingham quam Johannes Parys et heredes sui facere tenentur. Et Comes tenet de Domino Rege per baroniam comitatus Glovernie viij pars unius feodi militis. Et idem Will. habet liberum aprum et taurum et faldam. *Et debet unam sectam bis per annum comitatui Norvic.* [words struck out].

Henricus de London tenet v acras terre et j acram prati de comite Glovernie per serv. j^d. et scutagium, scil. ad xl^s. v^s.

Et habet duos villanos qui tenent duo messuagia et ix acras terre.

Rich. de Pagrave tenet unum acram et dim. terre et reddit per an. j^d. ob.

Petrus ad Parcum tenet unam acram terre et dat per an. iiij^d.

Thomas Wayt tenet iiij rodas terre et dat per an. ij^d.

Radulphus Bonde tenet j acram terre et reddit ij^d.

Thomas Faber tenet j acram et dim. terre et reddit per an. ij^d.

Henricus le Blunt tenet unam acram terre et dat per an. iiij^d.

Henricus Rake tenet unam acram terre et dat per an. j^d.

Johannes fil. clerici tenet dim. acram terre et dat per an. ij^d.

Et isti tenent de Will. fil. Walteri, et Willelmus tenet de Will. le Kat, et reddit per an. iiij^d. pro toto tenement suo, et W. le Kat tenet de Henr. de London et reddit per an. j^d.

Et dictus Henr. de London tenet dictum tenementum, villanos, et liberos tenentes de Thoma Jurdon per scutagium, scil. ad xl sol. v sol., ad plus plus, ad minus minus, et debet unam sectam hundredo de Erpyngnam quam Willelmus fil. Walteri et heredes sui facere tenentur. Et Thomas Jurdon tenet de Comite Glovernie et Comes de Domino Rege per baroniam comitatus Glovernie.

Kerebrok.

Willelmus de Ecclesia tenet iiij acras turbarie, et habet unum cotarium qui tenet unum cotagium.

Wulmere Bondes tenet unum cotagium de eodem Will. et reddit per an. iiij^d. Et Will. de Ecclesia tenet de domo de Kerebrok et reddit per an. iiij^d, et domus tenet in libera elemosina; de cujus feodo ignoratur.

Prior de Gyslingham.

Will. le Kat tenet lx acr. pasture de Will. de Ecclesia et reddit per an. dim. marc., et Will. de Ecclesia tenet de Priore de Kyslingham, et Prior tenet in libera elemosina de honore de Ry ex dono antecessorum J. le Mareschal.

Prior de Bromholm.

Johannes fil. clerici tenet unum messuagium et xvij acras terre, ij acras et dim. prati, de Priore de Bromholm, et reddit per an. vij^s. vj^d, et Prior tenet *de baronia de Rya de domino Rege sed qualiter* [words interlined are substituted for those in italics] et per quod servitium tenet jurati nesciunt.

Honor Ry.

Dominus J. le Marchal tenet in Hevingham xl acras terre arabilis, unum messuagium, xi acras prati, xvi acras pasture, x acras turbarie, et cc acras bruerie. Idem habet ix villanos qui tenent ix messuagia et lx acras terre. Idem habet iii cotarios qui tenent iiij cotagia.

Et dominus J. le Marchal percipit per annum de feodo Guyet xxij^d. ob. ad wardam castri Norwic., et ad scutagium quando venerit ad xls. xx^s. ad plus plus, ad minus minus, et habet visum franci plegii et faldam. Et tenet predictum tenementum cum libertatibus, villanos, cotarios, et liberos tenentes a principio tenure sue infrascriptos, de Domino Rege per baroniam de Ry.

Liberi tenentes ejusdem J.

Thomas Schade [tenet] ij acras per j^d. de J. le Mareschal.

Henricus Prente tenet dim. acram terre.

Petrus Guyet tenet unum mess. et unam acram terre.

Ricardus Howard tenet unum mess. et vj acras terre.

Ric. de Pagrave tenet 4 acras et dim. per ij^d. de J. le Marschal.

Willelmus ad Ecclesiam tenet vj acras terre.

Thomas Wayegrave (?) tenet ij acras.

Radulphus Belle tenet unam acram.

Willelmus Brese tenet dim. acram.

Radulphus fil. Roberti tenet iiij acras.

Willelmus Cucuk tenet dim. acram per j ob.

Johannes Cucuk tenet unam acram per j^d.

Henricus Cucuk tenet iiij rodas per ob.

Ricardus Faber tenet ij acras per j^d.

Willelmus frater ejus tenet dim. acram terre de Ricardo fratre ejus per j ob.

Henricus le Kat tenet ij acras terre.

Ric. Mariot tenet vij acras terre per vj^d. de J. le Mar[eschal].

Petrus Wiltam tenet unam acram.

Adam Knut tenet dim. acram.

Thomas de Alvingetun tenet dim. acram.

Elvida Schade tenet dim. acram terre per ij^d.

Philippus de Middeltun tenet dim. acram terre.

Robertus serviens persone, tenet dim. acram.

Johannes atte Fen tenet dim. acram terre.

Robertus Faber tenet i. cottagium.

Radulphus le Pottere tenet i. cotagium.

Johannes le Minere tenet i. cotagium.

Adam le Minere tenet i. cotagium.

Robertus le Potere tenet i. cotagium.

Johannes Luve tenet i. cotagium.

Henricus capellanus tenet i. messuagium et viii acras terre de Willelmo le Kat et reddit Willelmo v^d. et J. le Mareschal 2^d. et Willelmus tenet eundem (*sic*) tenementum de J. Marchal per scutagium.

Radulphus Streyt tenet unum mess. et unam acram et reddit v^d.

Thomas Sade tenet unum mess. et iii acras de eodem Rad. et reddit v^d. ; et Rad. tenet totum tenementum de W. de Lovesæ et reddit per an. v^d. ob, et Willelmus tenet de J. de Marchal.

Johannes fil. clerici tenet 1 acram et unum cotagium de Joh. de Lem, et reddit vj^d. et J. de Lem tenet de J. de Marchal per scutagium.

Wlvive (*sic*) Bondes tenet 1 acram terre de J. de Lem, et reddit vj^d. et J. de Lem tenet de J. le Marchal per scutagium.

Ricardus serviens persone tenet 1 cotagium et reddit ecclesie de Hevingham per an. iij^d. ob.

Radulphus Cappe tenet i cotagium de War. de Herford et reddit i^d.

Willelmus Veys tenet i cotagium de Will. de Ecclesia et reddit iij^d. et Will. tenet de J. le Marchal.

Idem Willelmus de Ecclesia tenet unam acram prati de Johanne clerico et reddit viij^d. et Johannes tenet de J. le Marchal et reddit vj^d.

Henricus de Branteston tenet unum messuagium, iiij acras et dim. terre de heredibus Henrici le Neuman, et reddit x^d. ob. et ipsi tenent de Johanne le Marchal.

Item pater noster tenet j cotagium et j acram terre de eisdem heredibus, et dat per an. x^d. et ipsi tenent de J. le Marchal.

Thomas Schade tenet dim. acram de eodem feodo et dat per an. j^a.

Rich. fil. Simonis tenet unum cotagium et reddit iij^a.

Alicia Guyet tenet unum cotagium et ij acras et reddit iij^a.

Willelmus Capellanus tenet unum messuagium et ij acras terre et reddit v^a ob.

Mariota Leces tenet unum cotagium et dim. acram terre et reddit ij^a.

Wulvive (*sic*) Bondes tenet unum messuagium et ii acras terre et reddit vij^a.

Henricus Lante tenet unum cotagium et reddit iij^a.

Henricus Rut tenet unum cotagium et dim. acram terre de W. le Kat, et reddit v^a ob.

Et Willelmus le Kat tenet eundem (*sic*) tenementum de Will. de Parco per eundem servicium.

Matilda Guyet tenet unum cotagium et j acram terre et reddit ij^a.

Filie Henrici le Neuman tenent vj acr. terre et reddunt vij^a.

Radulphus Goding tenet unum cotagium et dim. acr. terre et reddit viij^a.

Henricus le Blunt tenet v acras terre et redd. v^a ob.

Rich. de Pagrave tenet j acram terre et dim. et reddit 1^a ob.

Simon le Blunt tenet dim. acr. terre et reddit 1^a ob.

Wulvive (*sic*) Parker tenet unam acram et reddit 1^a.

Mirylda la Blunde tenet vj acras et reddit viij^a.

Alexander de Feltorp tenet ij acras terre et reddit iij^a.

Jocel[inus] Buleman tenet dim. acr. terre et reddit ij^a.

Omnes isti sub circulo scripti tenent de Willelmo de Parco per servicium subscriptum et per scutagium in cartis suis contentum, et Willelmus tenet de J. le Marchal per scutagium de feodo Guet.

[c. 1135-1145.] GRANT of EBERARD, Bp. of Norwich, to his officer PHILIP.*

✠ In Nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Amen. Notum sit omnibus tam presentis quam futuri temporis fidelibus quod ego Ebrardus Dei gratia Norwic. Episcopus dedi et concessi prece et concessione proborum hominum meorum huic Philippo ministro meo pro servitio suo et pro dimidio marco (*sic*) de gersuma, in feodo et in perpetua hereditate iiii toftes (*sic*) terras inter Heuigham et Ripeteunam, et simul cum illis iiii. toftes lviii acras de terra lucrabili et boscum et prata atque pascua et omnia eidem terre juste appendentia. Concessi etiam ei molendinum quod fecit in prato suo de quo stagnum ligatum est in bosco meo licentia et concessione mea. Hæc omnia

*Qu. Philip, archdeacon of Norwich 1138-60?

supradicta eidem Philippo hereditarie dedi, faciendo mihi per annum v sol. de servitio. Preterea noscat dilectio vestra postea me concessisse et dedisse prenominato Philippo et heredibus suis terram meam de Stratuna quam Herbertus bone recordationis Episcopus dedit Jordano cognato suo. Hoc autem feci prece et bona voluntate et concessione ejusdem Jordani per idem servitium quod Jordanus tenebat die qua Herbertus Episcopus fuit vivus et mortuus, videlicet per duos solidos per annum pro omnibus servitiis sicut carta Herberti Episcopi et carta mea, quas predictus Jordanus sua bona et spontanea voluntate liberavit Philippo, testant. Hec omnia supradicta volo et firmiter precipio ut bene, honorifice, et in pace teneat per prenominationem servitium. Et ut ista donatio rata permaneat impositione sigilli mei et nostre ecclesie sigilli confirmo. Sunt etiam testes ad hanc donationem corroborandam, Willelmus Prior et Conventus ecclesie Sancte Trinitatis, et Willelmus, et alter Willelmus, et Walkerel', Rogerus archdiaconus,* et Adam et Walterus, nep[otes] episcopi, et Toraldus et Gaifer capellani episcopi, et Johannes dapifer episcopi, et Petrus stab[ularius], et Symon de Nuers, et Rogerus de Fleg, et Gocelinus Grossus, et Willelmus de Ecclesia, et Herveus cam[erarius], et Adam dapifer, et Hugo de Blafer', et Osmundus Ruffus, et Rodbertus cocus, et Rand[ulfus] cocus, et Willelmus pistor.

[c. 1150.] GRANT by BISHOP WILLIAM TURB to HERBERT CAT.

Notum sit futuris et presentibus Christi fidelibus quod ego Willelmus Dei gratia Norwicensis Episcopus dedi Herberto Catto et Alde uxori sue, nepti mee, et heredibus suis totam terram que fuit Grimbaldi in Ripetunia, cum omnibus liberis consuetudinibus ad eandem terram pertinentibus, pro duobus solidis annuatim. Eapropter volo et precipio ut teneat ipse et heredes sui post eum predictam terram pro prefato servitio bene et in pace, libere et quiete, et in pratis et in pascuis et turbariis. Et ut hec donatio nostra firma et inconcussa permaneat sigilli nostri impositione eam confirmo. Teste (*sic*) Daniele Abbate de Hulmo,† Helya Priore, Johanne dapifero, Petro de Mall[ar]d, Petro constabulario, Ric. de Ferreris, Hernaldo Lupell, Turolde capellano, Hemero presbytero, Philippo de Martham, Gwarino hostiario, Roberto Wandelardo.

[c. 1170-4.] GRANT by BISHOP WILLIAM TURB to WILLIAM CAT.

Willelmus Dei gratia Norwic. Episcopus, omnibus hominibus suis Franciis et Anglis salutem. Sciatis quod ego reddidi et concessi Willelmo Catto terram que fuit Grimbaldi de feodo de Marsham, videlicet xxx acras quas pater ejusdem Willelmi Herebertus Cattus tenuit, ei et heredibus suis, tenendam de me

* No Roger is found in the printed lists of the archdeacons of the diocese in the time of bishop Everard.

† Died in 1153.

et de meis in perpetuum successoribus ita bene et libere et per idem servicium sicut pater suus melius et liberior eam tenuit. Volo igitur et precipio ut idem Willelmus et heredes sui habeant et teneant prefatam terram libere et quiete et hereditarie, honorifice et pacifice, per prenomiatum servicium. Test: Willelmo et Staingro^{*} Archidiaconis, Gaufrido filio Petri dapiferi, magistro Nicholao, Roberto Crasso, Richerio de Marsham, Roberto Grisio, Johanne clerico filio Roberti, Osmundo, Ric. Daniel, Stephano Ruffo, Joscel[ino] fratre Willelmi Archidiaconi, Roberto Pincerna et Godefrido fratre suo.

GRANT of two pieces of Land by ROGER GUET of Hevingham to WILLIAM LE KAT and LAURETTA his wife, the one called Hevidlond and the other Brodlonde.

Hiis testibus: Willelmo de Parco de Hevingham, Willelmo filio suo, Willelmo de Monasterio, Willelmo et Andrea de Levishaye, Henrico de London, Nicholao et Herveo filiis suis, Willelmo de Marheshal, Johanne filio clerici, Thoma Schade, et multis aliis.

GRANT of Land by HENRY FITZ-SIMON to WILLIAM LE KAT in consideration of a "PEACE OF MAYHEM."

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Henricus filius Simonis de London concessi dedi et hac presenti carta confirmavi Willelmo le Kat unam peciam terre mee in campo de Dudewik jacentem super Langfurlong inter terram Willelmi Spendluue ex parte orientali et terram Hugonis del Hil ex parte occidentali, et abuttat super terram Gerard versus austrum et super terram Will. Aldman versus aquilonem. Et homagium et servicium Walteri de Mendham merkatoris quod mihi debuit per annum pro tribus peciis terre, scilicet unum clavum gariofli pro tribus peciis terre quas aliquando de me tenuit. Quarum una pecia est medietas de messuagio Alquen, et alia super Wotelond inter terram Roberti le Kniht ex parte orientali et terram Petri le Kat ex parte occidentali. Et tertia pecia in crofto quod fuit Radulfi Alyetti inter viam regiam ex parte orientali et terram que fuit Radulfi prenominati ex parte occidentali, cum relevis et eskaettis et omnibus aliis rebus que mihi accidere possent de prefato Waltero et suis heredibus. Habendum et tenendum eidem Willelmo et heredibus suis vel suis assignatis bene et in pace in perpetuum sine aliquo seculari servicio, pro pace de mahenio formata et facta per predictum Willelmum inter prefatum Walterum ex una parte et me et Richerum filium meum ex altera parte. Et ego Henricus et heredes mei vel assignati mei warrantizabimus, acquitabimus, defendemus predicta tenementa et servicia cum eskaettis et relevis et aliis rebus

* Staingrin (*Taingrin* in Le Neve) was archdeacon of Norwich in 1174-5, in which latter year bishop William died in January; but no William appears to be found in the lists of archdeacons of Norfolk, Suffolk, or Sudbury about that time.

inde accidentibus prefato Willelmo et heredibus suis vel suis assignatis pro pace de mahenio facta, sicut predictum est, contra omnes homines et feminas in perpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium presens scriptum sigilli mei impressione corroboravi. Hiis testibus, Johanne de Leem, Johanne de Tudeham, Willelmo de Parco de Hevingham, Willelmo et Richero filiis suis, Henrico de Leveshaye, Willelmo et Andrea filiis suis, Reginaldo de Refham, Johanne filio suo, Willelmo de Monasterio de Hevingham, Henrico et Willelmo filiis suis, Eudone Toppais, Petro filio suo, Rogero Guet, Johanne filio Johannis clerici, Richero Streit, et multis aliis.

GRANT of VILLEINS by WILLIAM AT CHURCH to WILLIAM LE KAT.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus presens scriptum visuris aut auditoris, ego Willelmus ad Ecclesiam de Hevingham salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me concessisse dedisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse Willelmo le Kat, de eadem, et heredibus suis de se et Laurota condam uxore sua procreatis et eorum heredibus vel assignatis (*sic*), corpus Johannis Popi et corpus Seyhive matris sue et corpus Cecilie filie dicte Seyhive servos meos, cum toto tenemento et tota sequela eorundem, pro vinginti (*sic*) solidis argenti quos michi dedit premanibus. Habendum et tenendum de me et heredibus meis illi et heredibus suis prenomatis et heredibus eorum vel assignatis in perpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim michi et heredibus meis unum clave de gelofero pro omni servicio consuetudine et seculari demanda [etc.]. His testibus: Andrea de Branton, Petro filio suo, Roberto de Bolewik, Will. de Levishaye, Rogero de Refham, Johanne filio suo, Will. de Park, Joh. le Clerk, Will. de Thorp, Hen. de Lundune, Richero filio suo, et multis aliis.

WILLIAM LE KAT of HEVINGHAM

grants to Henry, his eldest son, his whole messuage in Marsham. Witnesses: Sir Tho. Bardolf, kt., Sir Will. de Whitwell, kt., Will. de Merceshalle, Will. de Leveshaye, John de Refham, Henry de London of Hevingham, Andrew de Braunthonne, John son of Philip de Strathonne, John Huberd of the same, Richard Scyet, Henry de Belagh, John le Bond, Christopher de Botheby, Simon Wrantham, clerk.

Sarra, daughter of Ralph the Smith ("fabri"), of Hevingham, releases to Ralph Smith (*sic*) all right in the land formerly her father's in Hevingham. One of the witnesses is Walter Bukeskin, the King's seneschal at Causton, and another, Henry le Cat.

1277[-8]. Roger, bishop of Norwich, for himself and his "nativi" of Hevingham, restores to William de Parco, of Hevingham, seven acres of meadow and one of alder-wood "in stagno," of which he had been disseised by William le Kat and many others named in a writ returned before the judges at Norwich, "cujusmodi disseisine faciende quidem nativi nostri de Hevingham personaliter interfuere." Suthelmham xvij Kal. Feb. 1277.

1318. Fine for settlement of lands in Hevingham, &c., between William le Kat and Katherine his wife, and Robert Felbrigg and John his brother, comprising 83 messuages, two mills, 500 acres of land, &c.—Octave of Hilary 11 Edward II.

1359. Andrew le Smyth of Hevyngham grants to Will. Burel of Hevyngham and Andrew Huberd of Straton all his lands, tenements, and messuage, in Hevyngham and Marsham, except a small house at the east of the messuage “*pertinente ad artificium fabri.*”—Hevingham, Monday after Purif. B.M.V., 33 Ed. III.

1371. John de Herlyngge, John de Berneye, Nicholas, parson of the church of Boton, and William Curszon release to Will. Cat and Margaret his wife their rights in Riptonhalle and Parkhalle. Witnesses: Sir Will. de Wychingham, Will. de Clere, and others. Hevingham, 45 Edward III.

1411. Robert Mauteby to Henry Katt. Covenant to settle Hevingham manor on marriage. *French.* Easter Monday, 12 Hen. IV.

1439. Deed of Henry Catt of Hevingham, reciting a feoffment of all his manors in Norfolk to William Bishop of Salisbury, by name of Master Will. Askewe, clerk, Will. Yelverton, and others, to the uses of his will; directing the sale of certain manors for payment of debts, with gifts of residue; *inter alia*, his best Missal to his wife Dionysia for her life, afterwards to the chapel of St. Mary in the church of Hevingham for ever, or so long as the same should last.

Declaration under seal by WILLIAM [ASKEW] BISHOP OF SALISBURY about Catt's Manor of HEVINGHAM.

1442. To the Cristen people that this presente wryting see or here, I William by the grace of God Bishop of Salisbury sende gretyng in our Lord God. Inasmoche as it is said and I am enformed that Henry Catte late of Hevyngham in the county of Norff., squir, shuld have died seised in his demene as of fee in the manor of Hevyngham and other his manors lands and tenements rents and services with thappurtenances in the said county of Norff., and for as moche as it is merytory and byhofful (*behoveful*) to witnesse trouth and to put away perjurie and other perill, I by this my wrytyng witnesse and thus notifie that the saied Henrye the fiftene year of the reigne of our soverayne lord the King that now is, me at that tyme being person of the churche of Hevyngham aforesaid, made a lawful feoffment of the said manor and other of his said manors landes and tenementys in the said counte of Norff. to me and to William Yelverton, Robert Mortymer, and to other, and to our heires in fee for ever more, to thentent to do and performe thereof his will: and we, as commone cours is, suffered the said Henry to occupie by our suffrance all his lyve, and otherwise deyde he not seisd in his demene of fee; and this wol I seyn and witnesse as ferre as mine

estats axith or requireth, and for the more open evidence hereof to give my writyng I have sette my seall the xvii day of the moneth of Feverere, the xx yere of the reigne of King Henry the sixth after the conquest of Ingland.

1471. Will. Aynse of Hevyngham and Nicholas Lincolne of Skothowe demise to John Wotton, "jurisperito," John Abbes of Buxton, sen., and James Jurdon of the same, two messuages with closes and 14 acres of land in Hevyngham which they had by demise of John Hall of Stratton.—2 Nov. "anno ab inchoatione regni Reg. Hen. VI. 49, et readeptionis sue Regie potestatis anno primo." Witn., Rob. Brampton, Will. Vergeons, Rich. Arnold, esq., Rob. Bulley, Rob. Marsham, &c.

1479. Release by John Ryther to his son William; reciting that he held a moiety of the manors of Ripton Hall, Park Hall and Kerytoft in Hevingham, Marsham, Brampton, Stratton next Hevingham, and half the manor of Horsted, called Cattes in Horsted, for life, in right of Johanna his late wife, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Margaret Calys sister and heiress of Henry Catte; with remainder to his said son William, heir of said John and his wife Johanna; which moiety he now releases to him.—20 May, 19 Edward IV.

1479. Edmund Auncell, of Hevingham, "husbondman," grants to Thomas Tyler and John Coduham, of the same place, five acres of land in Hevingham. Witnessed (*inter alios*) by "reverendo domino domino Thome (*sic*) Scroope, episcopo Dromorensi." 25 Aug., 19 Edward IV.

1553. James Boleyn, knight, grants by royal license to Edward Lomnour,* esq., and Thos. Payne, gent., the manors of Hevingham, Causton, Cardeston and Ryffehame, which he and his wife Elizabeth had by sale of Henry VIII., by letters patent, dated 22 March, 28th of his reign; to hold of the Queen *in capite*, by military service for the tenth part of one knight's fee, with the condition that they should make a recovery to the use of the said James and Elizabeth his wife and the longer liver, with remainder to the Princess Elizabeth, commonly called the Lady Elizabeth's Grace.—9 October, 1 Mary.

1550. Will of John Martyn of Hevingham. Probate, 15 March, 1555.

1557. Will of Robert Martyn, of Hevingham, and probate at Aylsham the same year.

1565. Will of John Thetford, of Heveningham, gent.

Forty-four other deeds relating to Hevingham between the reigns of Edward I. and Eliz. have been examined and summarized, and about thirty-three examined from the time of Hen. IV.

* This name is evolved from Le Mynor, through Lemynour, to Lomnour and Lumnor.

SAXTHORPE

With the MANORS of MICKELHALLE and LOUNDHALLE.

MANOR ROLLS. Between 1290 and 1623.

COURTS AND COURTS GENERAL.

Edward I. for the year 18.

Edward III. for the years 2, 6, 7, 8, 20, 22-36. For Loundhalle : 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36-50, except 46. Copies (?) also of 41, 47, 50. (The roll for the year 2 much damaged.)

Richard II. 1-23 except 4. (The year 10 is the court of Edmund Gurney.) For Mickelhalle : 17.

Henry IV. For Loundhalle : 1-14, except 8 and 9.

Henry V. For Loundhalle : 1, 3-8.

Henry VI. For Mickelhalle : 8, 14-32, 35, 36, 37. For Loundhalle : 1-4, 7-12, 16-28, 31-32, 33, 35-38. (The year 4 is the first court of "Oldhalle and others." 6 is the first court of Sir John Fastolf and others.)

Edward IV. For Mickelhalle : 3, 5, 15, 18, 19, 21, 22.

Richard III. For Loundhalle : 1-3. For Mickelhalle : 1. For Saxthorpe : 1.

Henry VII. For Loundhalle : 1-24. For Mickelhalle : 1, 2, 6, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, (18, 19, 20, with Matlask). For Saxthorpe : 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 17.

Henry VIII. For Loundhalle : 1-38. For Mickelhalle : 1-16 (except 3), 17, 18, 20-23, 25-28, 29. For Saxthorpe : 21.

Edward VI. For Loundhalle : 1-6.

Mary. For Loundhalle : 1 and 2 to 5-6, P. and M. For Saxthorpe : 4-6.

Elizabeth. For Loundhalle : 1-28. For Mickelhalle : 11-25. (18 is with Briston ; 19 is Sir Christopher Heydon's first Court.) For Saxthorpe : 1, 2, 3, 6, 7-17.

James I. For Loundhalle : 15 and 18, Sir Henry Hobart's Court. For Mickelhalle : 14-20.

LEET ROLLS:—

Edward IV. for year 21. Mickelhalle with Byrsten.

Henry VII. For Mickelhalle : 6, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23 (18, with view of frank pledge). For Saxthorpe : 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 (1, 2 and 14 with Briston).

Henry VIII. For Mickelhalle : 1-16 (except 3), 17, 18, 20-23, 25-29. For Saxthorpe : 21.

Elizabeth. 1, 2-18.

ACCOUNT ROLLS:—

Edward I. For Loundhalle : Provost's accounts for 25, and accounts for 31. Two fragments, *temp.* Ed. I.

Edward III. For Loundhalle : Account for 10 ; Provost's for 13 ; Bailiff's for 24 ; "Serviens" for 29 and 30.

Richard II. "Serviens" for 9 and 10.

Henry IV. For Loundhalle : Provost's (W. Skottowe) for 6.

Henry V. For Mickelhalle. Bailiff's for 20-21.

Henry VI. For Loundhalle: Bailiff's for 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27-30, 36-37. For Mickelhalle: Bailiff's for 18-21. For Saxthorpe: 12, 13, 25. Messor's and Farmer's for 16. Account of John Bert, Bailiff to Sir John Fastolf, 16, 17.

Mary. For Loundhalle: Bailiff's for 1-5, P. and M.

Elizabeth. For Loundhalle: 1-8. Sir Christopher Heydon's Court.

Rental of Mickelhalle, of Edward Grey, Esq. Undated.

Rental of Loundhalle. Undated, *temp.* Henry III.

A very fine rental of Loundhall, *temp.* Ric. II.,* in good preservation, entitled: "Manerii de Lound, de liberis custumariis et nativis, termini solutionis, videlicet festis Pasche, Johannis Baptiste, Michaelis Archangeli, et cetera. Nomina tenentium, et cetera." Followed by particulars of 106 money rents, 54 fowl rents. "Corpusty, Heidone, extenta eorundem; termini solutionis redditus, videlicet fest. Purificationis, Pentecosten, S. Mich. Archang. Nomina tenentium, &c." With particulars of 55 money rents, 16 fowl rents. Huneworth, with 6 money rents, 6 fowl rents. Memoranda as to rents payable to Dominus de Brewse, Dominus de Valence, Dominus Ric. Nugun, and others. Attached is an ancient list of tenements liable to the office of messor in rotation.

Rental of Loundhalle, in the time of Joan, Countess of Hertford, daughter of Edw. I.

SUMMARIES OF DEEDS.

Helvisa de Wendenal grants to Geoffrey le Cras the land and tenement which Elgar Kide, merchant, held of her ancestors in the vill of Saxthorp "et libere adquisivit," to hold "ita quod non faciat venditionem terrarum nec more nec turbarum, nec destructionem, sed accipiat ad mensuram quod ad victum sufficiat ardendi in domo propria." After his death to the heirs of him and his wife Elviva, daughter of the said Elgar. Rent of 2s. 10d., quarterly, and one hen or one penny for 2 acres, of the fee of Wikemere; two shillings for scutage. Record of homage by Geoffrey and delivery of deed sealed by Helvisa, "pro salute anime Ruellenni fratris mei in cujus servicio idem Galfridus multum laboravit."

Witnesses: Willam her chaplain, Ralph le Nugun, Nicholas his son, Robert Tirel, Roger de Croft, Roger de Saule, Robert de Kent, Simon de Crosdale, Godfrey chaplain, and many others. Oblong seal, broken, in green wax, a fleur-de-lis; ". . . Avelise de"

* A faint note at the head, in a hand of late 15th cent., runs thus: "Patet esse tempore Ric. 2 per rot. cur. in nominibus tenentium."

Ralph de Clere releases to Ranulph Fitz Robert, Lord of Lound in Saxthorp, all his right in a rent of 3s. which was paid for the submersion of his common by the mill pond of Lound Mill; also of his right of turbary in the pool beyond the old course of the river, with rights of fishery, &c. The said Ranulph grants to said Ralph de Clere half the profits of the mill of Lound, provided that he pays half the expenses and costs thereof, and that his whole suit of villeins of all the homage pertaining to his manor of Styntone grind their corn at the mill.

Witnesses: Richard de Langercroft, Ralph de Nuion, Richard his son, Ralph de Irmynglond, Godfrey de Irmynglond, Robert Parker, Adam de Aula, John Josep, Simon de Crosdale.

A copy, made probably about A.D. 1300.

Ralph de Brus, keeper of the manor of Lund in Saxthorp, grants to Sigar de Oultone, for sixteen marks, all his tenements in Iteringham (except the homages of Skut of Iteringham); also Legatemill in Saxthorp; to hold the tenement and mill of him and his heirs in fee and inheritance; rendering yearly 'de censu' 23s. and three halfpence and two capons; for the lord's aid, 14 pence to the mark, "*et ad plus plus et ad minus minus,*" "*et similiter ad omne servitium forinsecum.*"

Witnesses: Sir Roland de Averages, Sir Ralph de Clere, Ralph his son, Ralph de Irmigland, Richard de Nugun, William Bainard, Geoffrey de Beck "*serviente domini,*" William Bainard, Ranulph de St. John, and all the lord's soke.

Ralph de Brus grants to Robert son of Sigar de Oweltune, for six marks of silver, all the tenement that Sigar his father held of him, as in the preceding charter.

[c. 1200-20.] Ralph de Nugun, grants to Roger son of Steingrim of Corpesti all the land which he holds of Warin de Salla in Corpesti, viz., in Mucclerlund and Litelelund, for one mark and "*pro uno bisantio quod dedit Sabine uxori mea,*" paying annually 26*d.* and two capons.

Witnesses: Ralph de Irmingheland, Symon son of Alan, Richard son of Nicholas, Warin de Tithebi, Benedict his brother, Robert the merchant, Richard Fitz Warin, Matthew de Storh', Adam de Aula, Everard son of Stengrim, Richard de Norwich, Everard son of Hugh.

[1252.] 36 Hen. fil. Joh. Gervase and John, sons of Roger son of Arnald, grant to Simon son of Roger de Birston all the land of Roger their father in the vill of Saxtorp, "*de feodo Templi Gerosolomitani,*" to hold free of all secular exactions at a rent of 2s. yearly.

Witnesses: Godfrey de Irmigl[ond], Bartholomew his brother, Geoffrey son of Simon de Irmigl[ond], Ralph his son, Roger de Irming[lond], Arnald de Irming[lond], Simon de Crosdale, Nicholas Morel, Richard de la Croft, Richard the baker, Joh. Joseph, Geoffrey the smith, Robert son of Adam de Corpesti.

John son of Joseph de Saxtorp to William de Peletot. Grant of land called Marlepit, and buildings between the free land of Saxtorp church and land of Robert son of Eda de Lund.

Witnesses: Sir Nicholas de Bernigham, knight, Walter Tirel, Godfrey de Irmiglond, Bartholomew his brother, Geoffrey de Irmiglond, Ralph his son, Roger de Corpesti, Hugh his brother, Richard de Crufta, Nicholas Morel, Simon de Brisstune, Simon de Crosdale, Nicholas Cappe, Robert Coli, Geoffrey the smith. Seal.

Roger, son of the late Simon de Birston of Saxthorp, grants to Robert son of the late Robert Ode of Saxthorp, a piece of land at Saxthorp which Robert acquired from Robert Hunewyne, and two pieces which Adam son of John de Glosdale acquired from John Joseph.

Witnesses: Ralph de Hirminglond, John de Hirminglond, Roger le Cres of Saxthorp, Roger his son, John le Neuman, Simon de Crosdale, Nicholas the tanner, Robert the tanner, Luke Bate, Edmund Pilyng. Small seal.

Robert son of the late Lucy de Coventre, daughter of John de Coventre, grants to John his brother all his right in the land of his mother at Saxthorp, which she held of the lady Helewisa de Wendeval.

Witnesses: Walter Tyrel, Nicholas Morel, Simon de Birston, Simon de Crosdale, Geoffrey the smith, Ralph Mus, Richard de Croft, Nicholas Cappe, John le Quyit, Nicholas le Neuman, and William de Basingham.

John Covyn[tre], son of Lucy de Coventre of Ouletoune, grants to Robert Ode of Saxtorp, for the sum of 40s., one piece of his land lying in Saxtorp in the place called le Ride, one end abutting on the land of Sir William de Valence, "*quae computatur pro quatuor acris et dim.*"; paying annually 2s. 3*d.*, and 2*d.* for a scutage of 40s.; with power of assignment except to religious houses.

Witnesses: Walt. Tyrel, Walter his son, Nicholas Morel of Saxtorp, Simon de Birstune of the same, Roger his son, William the tanner of the same, Simon de Crosdale of the same, Geoffrey the smith, Ralph Mus of the same, Thomas de Croft of Birstonne, Nicholas Cappe of the same, Joh. Quyit of the same. Seal, a fleur-de-lis; "*S' Johannis fil' Lucie de Coventre.*"

Odo de Peletot grants to Stephen son of Adam de Gloresdale all that messuage that was Nicholas Gibney's in Saxthorp and five acres of land which said Nicholas had in Saxthorp and Corpesty of Sir Robert Wendeval, and one piece of land which he held of Nicholas Morel, and a piece of land called Marlepitlond which his brother William bought of John Josep, and 12*d.* annual rent from a cottage which Sibilla Gibny held of him in Saxthorp; "*reddendo inde annuatim dominis feodi servicium sicut continetur in cartis quas habui de predictis dominis, et mihi et heredibus meis unum obolum ad festum St. Mich.*"

Witnesses : Walter Tyrel of Manyngton, Walter his son, Sir William de Parc of Saxthorp, Nicholas Morel of the same, Simon de Briston of the same, Roger his son, Robert Ode of the same, William his son, Simon de Crosdale of the same, William the tanner of the same, Thomas de Croft of Briston, and Nicholas Cappe of the same.

[c. 1260-70.] William de Valence, "Dominus Panbroch'," grants to Roger le Cras the land and tenement which his ancestors held of the grantor's ancestors in the vill of Saxtorp, at a rent of 2s. 10d., quarterly, and one hen or one penny for half an acre held of his fee of Wykmere.

Witnesses : Geoffrey Scatelyn, Jordan de Sakevile, knights, William de Saxtorp, chaplain, Walter de Bynetre, Simon de Birston, Roger his son, Nicholas Morel, Nicholas Cappe, Robert Ode, William his son, Ralph de Irmyngland, Geoffrey the smith, Richard de Croft. Seal of arms ; barry of six, thereon eight martlets : "Sigill' Will'i de Val"

John son of the late Lucy de Coventry grants to William son of Rob. Ode of Saxthorp, for half a mark, $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres "inter terram Beatricis fil. Lucie versus austrum et terram Johannis fil. Joh. Robyn versus aquilonem, et unum capud abuttat supra terram Domini Will. de Valence et aliud super regiam viam."

Witnesses : Sir Richard de Creppingge, knight, Walter Tyrel, Simon de Birston, Roger his son, Simon de Crosdale, Will. the tanner, Nich. Neuman, Will. de Basingham. Seal.

John le Plomer and Agatha his wife grant to Sir Richard de Creppyng and Margaret his wife, "pro quadam summa pecunie," all their right and title in the Baililond in Saxthorp "simul cum dote quando acciderit."

Witnesses : Sir John de Cokefeld, Sir Ralph de Nougoun, Sir Roger de Wolterton, John le Pouere, Thom. de Burston, John de Ermilaunde, Simon de Burston, Roger his son, William Ode of Saxthorp, Thomas de Apedall, Ralph Godes, Godfrey de Brandeston.

Ralph son of the Lady Wlviva de Iteringham grants to Gervase son of Richer Hare of Saxtorp one piece of land which he holds of Robert Siger of Oweltune in Saxthorp, lying between land which he holds of Sir William his brother, and the land which the sons of Turkill hold of William son of Robert de Iteringham, for ten shillings ; paying yearly 2d.

Witnesses : Walter Tyrel, Ralph de Irminglond, Roger his brother, Godfrey de Irminglond, Bartholomew his brother, Richard de Oweltune, Benedict his brother, John de Corpesti, Symon de Crosedale, Nicholas Morel, John Joseph, Martin the clerk of Saxtorp, Richard the baker of Corpesty. Seal, a cross ; "Sigill' Radulfi de Hiteringham."

Simon son of Simon de Crosdale of Saxtorp grants to Godfrey son of Ralph Totinger of Saxtorp three acres in Saxtorp for three marks and a yearly rent of 8d. ; with power to give to assigns, "exceptis domibus religiosis."

Witnesses: Ralph de Irminglond, John his son, Walter Tyrel de Manington, Walter his son, Nicholas Morel of Saxtorp, Simon de Birston, Roger his son, William son of Robert Ode of Saxtorp, William the tanner of the same, Nicholas le Neuman of the same, Robert Simenel of Irminglond. Dated Sunday after f. of SS. Peter and Paul. Seal.

[1275.] Hugh Tyrel and Matilda his wife release to Richard de Crepping, his heirs and assigns, all their right in a mill at Saxthorp called Gate mille, which they had by way of dowry on the death of Thomas Syger, former husband of the said Matilda, to hold for the lives of the said Hugh and Matilda, rendering yearly three quarters of barley as good as comes commonly to the mill; with power to seize the barley by their bailiff for the time being if in arrear for 8 days.—Saxthorp, Tuesday after f. of St. Katherine V., 3 Edw. I.

Witnesses: Ralph de Irmingland, John his son, Bawdwine de Cankewell, Hugo le Parlene, Simon de Birston, Roger his son, Roger de Crosdale, Robert Simenel, Walter de Appleby, clerk.

1277. Stephen son of Adam de Gloresdale grants to William son of Robert Ode of Saxthorp all the messuages that were formerly Nicholas Gibny's in Saxthorp, 5 acres which the said Nicholas held of Robert de Vendewal, and a piece of land called Marlepitlond, which William de Peletot bought of John Josep.

1277. Juliana daughter of Robert Tyrel of Saxthorp, widow, grants and quit-claims to Robert Ode of Saxthorp and Matilda his wife all her rights in all the tenement with the houses, etc., that belonged to Robert Tyrel, her father, in Saxthorp, for 45s., with all liberties, etc., as contained in the charter of feoffment of Helewisa de Vendewal.—Dated Sunday before f. of St. Gregory the Pope, 5 Edw. fil. Hen. 1276[–7].

Witnesses: Sir William de Park of Saxthorp, chaplain, Walter Tyrel of Manington, Walter his son, Simon de Birston of Saxthorp, Roger his son, Nicholas Morel, William the tanner, Simon de Crosdale, Ralph Mus, all of the same, Thos. de Croft of Birston, Nicolas Cappe of the same, William de Bassingham of Manington. Seal: "S' Juliane fil' Rob' Tirel."

1299. Richard de Hertford, rector of the church of Saxthorp, grants to Simon de Creppingge, son and heir of Sir Richard de Creppingge, knight, permission to have, during his life, divine service performed in a proposed oratory or chapel near his court in Saxthorp, "per idoneum capellanum"; provided that he attend the parish church on the four greater feast days of the year, and that the offerings be paid over. Dated at Possewyk, Tuesday after the f. of St. Hilary, 27 Edw. [I].

PARDON to SIMON CREPPING by EDW. II.

1318. 1 Aug. Edwardus Dei gracia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et dux Aquitanie, omnibus ballivis et fidelibus ad quos presentes litere pervenerint salutem. Sciatis quod cum Simon de

Creppinges nuper implacitasset, ut accepimus, Johannem le Neweman coram Justiciariis nostris de Banco per breve nostrum, de uno messuagio, sex acris terre, quatuor acris prati et tribus acris pasture cum pertinentiis in Saxthorp, idemque Simon coram prefatis Justiciariis nostris in curia nostra per considerationem ejusdem curie messuagium, terram, pratum et pasturam predictam versus eundem Johannem per defaultam post defaultam recuperasset, ac postmodum idem Johannes suggerens in curia nostra coram eisdem Justiciariis quod ipse in loquela predicta summonitus, seu visus de eisdem tenementis factus non fuit, quodque tenementa illa in manum nostrum capta non fuerunt, ut est moris, breve nostrum de deceptione versus prefatum Simonem impetraverit, de qua quidem deceptione idem Simon coram prefatis Justiciariis nostris ad prosecutionem dicti Johannis convictus fuit et prisone nostre ea occasione adjudicatus, in qua sic adhuc ut dicitur detinetur: Nos eidem Simoni volentes super hoc gratiam facere specialem, perdonavimus ei id quod ad nos pertinet de imprisonment et deceptione supradictis: Nolentes quod predictus Simon per nos vel heredes nostros, justiciarios, vicegerentes, seu alios ballivos vel ministros nostros quoscunque inde occasionetur in aliquo seu gravetur. In cujus rei testimonium has literas nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste me ipso apud Notingh. primo die Augusti anno regni nostri undecimo. Per ipsum Regem, nunciante magistro Thoma de Cherletone. Fragment of seal.

1312. Luke Bate of Saxthorp grants release to Sir Simon de Creppinge, knight, of all actions, claims and demands which he might have against Richard de Creppinge and Margaret his wife.—Saturday after Easter, 4 Ed. II.

1319. John le Neuman of Saxthorp releases to Sir John de Merewrth, knight, and Margaret his wife, daughter and heiress of Simon de Creppinge, and to all their tenants, both free and serfs, and to Ralph Gerveys of Saxthorp, chaplain, and Reginald Fox of Corpesty, clerk, and all men whom it concerns, all actions, claims, debts and demands on account of any transgression or deception against him by the said Simon de Crepping or any in his name, for which he has recovered against the said Simon “sexcies viginti et decem libras in curia domini Regis.”—Saxthorp, Sunday after Nat. of St. John Bapt., 12 Edw. fil. Edw.

1324. John le Neweman of Saxthorp releases to Sir John de Merewrthe, knight, and Marjory his wife and all their tenants in Saxthorp, Corpesti, Irminglond, etc., all actions, quarrels and demands occasioned by any transgression by them done to him in the time of Sir Simon de Crepping or after his decease.—Saxthorp, Sunday after Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr, 17 Ed. fil. Edw.

1336. Release by Reginald de Bilney of all actions and demands against Sir John Mereworth and Hugh de Derby.—Saxthorp, Tuesday before f. of St. Luke, 9 Edw. III. *French.*

1361. Indenture of grant by Sir Ralph de Cromewelle, knt., to Esmon Gurnay of the wardship and marriage of William son of William (Dautre), heir of Margaret widow of John de Mereworth, with the manor of Loundhall, for 36 marks of silver.—Westbarsham, Monday after St. John Bapt., 35 Edw. III. *French.*

1368-77. Record of Assize on a claim against Leonell Dautre and John de Bery for wrongful disseisin of Dautre's assigns at Saxthorp, showing the descent of the owner, William Dautre, from Simon Crepping through the marriage of Simon's daughter Margaret to Sir John de Mereworth.—Between 41-50 Edw. III.

“Mem. quod Edwardus Gurney anno xxxvi. E. tertii perquisivit de Radulfo Cromewell custodiam Willelmi Dawtery consanguinei Margerie Mereworth ac custodiam manerii de Saxthorp.

Mem. Johannes Gurney obiit anno ix. H. quarti et Johannes Drew super[vix]it.”

1367. William Dautre grants to Ralph de Beston, parson of the church of Harpelee, Thomas de Beston, and Simon Gurwhant, the manor at Saxthorp. [This enfeoffment is defended and maintained in the preceding record of assize.]—Sauxthorp, Monday before f. of St. Katherine V., 41 Edw. III.

1372. William son of William Dautre grants and quit-claims to Thomas de Beston and Simon Gurquant, chaplain, all his right in the manor of Saxthorp called Loundhall.—West Lexham, Sunday after f. of St. Matthias, 46 Edw. III. [See the two preceding documents.]

1377. Thomas de Beeston and Simon Gurwhan, chaplain, grant to Hamon de Felton, William de Elmham, Ralph de Shelton, knts., William de Gunthorp, rector of the church of Fakenham, Edmund Gurnay, William Wynter, Clement de Brettenham, Edmund de Clypesby, and John Gurnay, the manor of Loundhalle in Saxthorp.—Wednesday after f. of St. Agnes, 50 Edw. III.

1390. William Dautre grants to John Gurnay, John Wynter, Richard Creyke, and Simon Baret his manor of Saxthorp called Loundhalle, in exchange for the manors of West Lexham and Gurnays in Wotton, with the wards, &c. “et cum omnibus nativis et eorum sequelis,” with all the appurtenances of the manor in the vills of Saxthorp, Corpesty, Irmynglond, Heydon, Bernyng-ham Parva, Plumstede, Briston, Eggefeld, Itringham and Honeworthe.—Saxthorp, Monday after Whitsunday, 13 Ric. II.

1391. Fine levied at Westminster before Roberd de Cherlton, Will. Thirnyng, Will. Rikhill, John Wadham and Richard Sydenham, justices, between Robert de Martham, John, vicar of the church of Saxthorp, Robert, parson of the church of Great Rakheythe, and Matthew, parson of the church of Little Rakheythe, and John de Yelverton and Margaret his wife, conveying to the four former a messuage, 50 acres of land and

2 acres of meadow in Saxthorp, for 100 marks paid to said John Yelverton and his wife. A previous fine in 14 Rich. II. had conveyed the property for 50 marks.—Octave of St. Joh. Bapt., 15 Ric. II.

1394. Simon Baret of Hecham releases to John Gurnay all his right in the manor of Saxthorp called Loundhalle which the said John Gurnay, John Wynter, Richard Creyk and the said Simon acquired from Will. Dautre.—Bakunsthorp, Monday before St. Bartholomew Ap., 18 Ric. II.

1406. Thomas Erpyngham, Robert Berneye, Ralph Shelton, knights, John Wynter and John Yelverton, demise to John Gurnay, esq., John Drewe, clerk, William Brygg and Thomas Taseburgh, the manor of Saxthorp called Loundhalle, which manor they lately had by feoffment of the said John Gurnay.—Saxthorp, Monday before Annunciation B. M. V., 7 Hen. IV.

Same date, Power of Attorney by grantors to deliver seisin.

1407. John Gurnay, John Drewe, parson of the church of Harpele, and Thomas Taseburgh grant to Robert Morle, knight, Thomas Astle, John Boson, Robert Brunham, burgess of Linn Episcopi, John Eyre of Skulthorp and John Person of Massingham 20*l.* of annual rent from their manor in Saxthorp called Loundhalle.—Saxthorp, 1 April?, [“*xxxij mensis Marcii*”!], 8 Hen. IV.

1409. Alice Gurnay, late wife of John Gurnay, releases to Simon de Felbrigge, Robert Berneye, Roger Drewry, knights, Robert Mauteby, Edmund Oldhall, Edmund Wynter, Clement Herward, Robert Wynter, clerk, and Will. Howlyn, clerk, all her right in the manor of Saxthorp called Loundhalle, which the said Simon, &c., had by feoffment of John Drury, clerk, and Thos. Tasburgh.—Saxthorp, Thursday before Nat. S. Joh. Bapt., 10 Hen. IV.

1410. Simon de Felbrigg, Robert Berneye, Roger Drewry, knights, Robert Martham, Edmund Oldhalle, Edmund Wynter, Clement Herward, Robert Wynter, clerk, and William Howlyn, clerk, demise to John Wynter, esq., and Alienora his wife the manor of Saxthorp called Loundhalle, which they lately had by feoffment of Roger Drewe, clerk, and Tho. Tasburgh, to hold to the said John and Alienora for their lives, with remainder to the grantors.—Saxthorp, Thursday in Whitsun week, 11 Hen. IV.

1412. Alice, widow of John Gurnay and of John Wynter, John Drewe, parson of the church of Harpelee, William de Snetesham, and William Morel, chaplain, execute deed of arrangement for sale of the manor of Saxthorp for payment of the debts of said John Gurnay.—Bakenesthorpe, Tuesday after the week of St. Hilary, 13 Hen. IV.

1426. Clement Herward, John Grene, John Drew, clerk, and John Baxtere of Honyng appoint Nicholas Manne, chaplain,

and Walter Arnold, attorneys to deliver seisin to William Oldhalle, Thomas Kyngston, knights, William Alyngton of the county of Cambridge, esq., William Fynderne, esq., W. Kynge, chaplain, John Harleson, esq., and John Conteshale, of the manor of Loundhalle.—31 July, 4 Hen. VI.

1428. The path called “Peddersty” and the way called “Walsingham waye” are mentioned in a feoffment dated at Saxthorp, St. George the Martyr, 6 Hen. VI.

1428. William Oldhalle, knt., and Thomas Kyngeston, knt., release to John Fastolf, knt., Henry Inglose, knt., John Kirtling, clerk, Henry Sturmer and John Lynford, all their right in the manor of Loundhall.—Saxthorp, 9 June, 6 Hen. VI. Oldhall’s seal, a lion rampant, remains.

1429. Edmund Wynter, esq., grants to John Fastolf, Henry Inglose, knts., John Fastolf, esq., John Kyrting, clerk, Henry Sturman and John Lynford, their heirs and assigns, all his tenement called Odes in Saxthorp and all his land in Saxthorp, Briston, Manyngton, and Stafford Berningham, which he had (in common with John Braunche, John Hagon and Thomas Robyns, parson of the church of Berningham) from Thomas Barker of Berningham, son and heir of John Barker of Saxthorp [by deed in 10 Hen. V.]—Saxthorp, 12 May, 7 Hen. VI.

1442. Will. Oldhall, kt., releases to John, Cardinal Archbp. of York, John Archbp. of Canterbury, W. Bishop of Winchester, Ralph Lord Cromwell, Ralph Lord Sudley, John Lord Beauchamp, John Fortescue, Ch. Justice of the Common Pleas, William Yelverton, Justice of the same, Richard Waller, esq., Will. Tolye, Clement Denston, Thomas Ludham, Thomas Howys, clerks, Thomas West, esq., William Wangford, Nicholas Gyrlyngton, William Genneye, and Thomas Grene, all his right in the several manors and tenements formerly held by him jointly with them under the grant of Sir John Fastolf, viz., in the manors of Castre in Flegge by Great Yernemouth, Redham halle, Vaux and Bosons, advowson of St. Jo. Baptist there, manor of Hemsby, 25 marks rent of Hickling priory from Netherhall manor, one third part of Runham manor, manor of Wynterton called Begvyles, manor of Boyton called Pedhamhall, manor of Mundham with the advowson of the church of St. Ethelbert, manor of Heylesdon and advowson of the church and two chantries there and the water mills, manor of Drayton and the advowson, manor of Felthorp with the advowson, half the church of Taverham, manor of Heynford with the advowson, manor of Guton in Brandeston with the advowson, manor of Blyclyng with the appurtenances, manor of Loundhall, in Saxthorp, with water mill and appurtenances, manor of Tichewell with the appurtenances; and all lands in Caistor, Great Ormesby, Scroutby, and forty-five other places in Norfolk, tenements in Norwich, manor of Caldecotys, and manors and lands in other places in Suffolk, manor of Dedham, Netherhalle and Overhall in Essex with the watermill, and the manor or messuage in St. Olaves, Southwark in

Horseydoun in Surrey, with the watermills and appurtenances, formerly Henry Yevele's, and seven houses and 25 acres of land in said parish of St. Olave, Southwark, called Dunleys.—12 Jan., 20 Hen. VI.

1442. Edmund Grey, Lord de Hastynges, Creysfford, and Ruthyn, grants to Robert Grey, esq., his manor of Saxthorp.

Witnesses: John Fastolfe, Henry Ynglose, Thomas Todinam, knights.—11 June, 20 Hen. VI. Fine seal of arms.

1469. William Boleyn occurs as a witness, 9 Edw. IV.

1470. Edmund Grey, Earl of Kent, William Calthorp, knight, Henry Boteler, gent., demise to Humfrey Grey, esq., Thomas Tresham, knight, John Bellers, William Catesby, son and heir of William Catesby, knight, William Alyngton, William ffilddyngs and Everard ffilddyngs, the manor of Saxthorp with the appurtenances and advowson of the free chapel.—5 June, 10 Ed. IV.

1470. John Hunte of Burbage, co. Leicester, yeoman, releases to Humfrey Grey, esq., Thomas Tresham, knight, John Bellers, William Catesby, son and heir of William Catesby, knight, Wm. Alyngton, William ffyllddyngs and Everard ffyllddyngs, his right in the manor of Saxthorp and the advowson of the free chapel.—20 July, 10 Edward IV.

1472. John Paston, knight, releases to William Waynflete, Bishop of Winton, David Husbond, William Gyfford, clerk, Thomas Danvers, William Danvers, and Richard Burton, all his right to the manors of Heynford, Saxthorp, etc., formerly John Fastolf's, knight.—10 April, 12 Edward IV.

1472. Will. Waynefflete, Bishop of Winton, Thos. Ursewyk, knight, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, John Say, knight, David Husbond, William Gyfford, John Nele, William Tebard, Richard Bernes, Stephen Tyler, clerks, Thomas Pounde, Thomas Danvers, William Danvers and Richard Burton, demise to John Morton, John Selot, clerks, John Heydon, Hugh Fenne, Henry Heydon, John Fyncham, Richard Southwell and Thomas Brampton, the manor of Loundhall in Saxthorp and all the lands formerly John Fastolf's, and also all the lands, etc., formerly Alienora Wynter's, which they had by demise of Robt. Anketell and Nicholas Westcote.—10 May, 12 Edward IV.

1472. William Paston, esq., reciting the seisin of Wm. Waynflete, Bishop of Winton, and his co-feoffees of the manor of Loundhall and the land late Sir J. Fastolf's, and their demise of the same to John Morton, John Selot and others, releases all his right in the said premises to Sir John Morton, etc.—1 July, 12 Edward IV.

1472. Similar release from Sir John Howard, Lord Howard, William Yelverton, knight, Thomas Littleton, one of the Justices of the King's Common Bench and Wm. Genney, Sergeant-at-law.—1 July, 12 Edward IV.

1473. William Gurnay, esq., releases to John Morton, John Selot, clerks, John Heydon, Hugh Fenne, Henry Heydon, Richard Southwell, esqs., all his claim in the manor of Lound Hall, with the lands, etc., formerly Sir John Fastolf's.—14 Jan., 12 Edw. IV.

1474. William Yelverton, knight, grants to Robert Wyngfeld, knight, Thomas Brewes, knight, William Yelverton, esq., son of the said William Yelverton and the lady Ela his late wife, Robert Brewes, jun., William Wayte and John Motte all his messuages, lands and tenements in Saxthorp and Irminglond.—27 Dec., 14 Edw. IV.

1547. Fine between Richard Heydon and Rowland Shakerley and Anna his wife, and Robert Bedyngfeld, deforciant, conveying to the said Robert the manor of Micklehall in Saxthorp, with 30 houses, 20 tofts, 300 acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, 20 acres of wood, 500 acres “camporum et bruarium,” and the advowson of the free chapel of St. Dunstan in Saxthorp.—15 days after Easter, 1 Ed. VI.

[1549.] Sept 26, 3 Edw. VI. Sir Thomas Woodhous, of Waxham, knt., conveys to Christopher Heydon, esq. “totam illam nuper capellam S. Dunstani in Saxthorp, et totum scitum ejusdem nuper capelle, et omnes illas decimas garbarum, granorum, bladorum, lane, agnellorum, et feni, et alias decimas quascunque annuatim ut de tempore in tempus crescentes, provenientes, sive renovantes, in villa et campo de Saxthorp predicta, modo vel nuper in tenura sive occupatione Anthonii Temple, dicte nuper capelle S. Dunstani in Saxthorp predicta dudum spectantes et pertinentes.” Recites a grant from the Crown of 29 Sept. in the previous year of the Chapel to Sir Thomas Woodhous. With seal and signature.

[1553.] March 31, 7 Edw. VI. Building lease from Sir Christopher Heydon, knt., to William Empson, of Saxthorpe, miller, of Lound Mill, for 21 years, at sixty shillings a year; the said lessee to “mak, frame, sett up, and fynyshe one watremylle with all things necessarye in all purposes for the goyinge of a corne mylle or fullers mylle, in the place where the olde fullynge mylle was sometyme edyfyed at Lounde Wood in Saxthorpe, and also that he the same Wyllym shall repare and make the dammes and cawnses, and repare and amende the olde mylle hous now ther edyfyed.”

Bailiff's covenant with SIR JOHN FASTOLF for farming the manor. [Hen. VI.]

“This Indenture made at Castre the 15 day of August wytnesseth that John Bert baily of Saxthorp hath made covenant wyth John Fastolf knyth that he at the said Sr John Fastolf's costages shall done eryl sowe and harwyn at Saxthorp lxx [acres] of divers cornes, that is to sayn xl acres of ote xx acres of barley x acre of pesen, which shall ben in due and sesonable tyme, the said John Bert takyng for eryl and

sowyng and harwyng of yche acre of ote x^d, for yche acre of barly at all erthes cutte thereof 2^s 2^d, and for yche acre of pesyn at the sowyng and harwyng thereof ix^d, and the said Sir John Fastolf wyl and graunteth that en cas the said John Bert may lete sufficient ferme these said landis or part thereof that he þanne for as many londes as he so leteth xal ben discharged of the saith earth and sowyng; and if there be mo londes in the said Fastolf is hands the said John Bert graunteth to eryl and sowe them under the same ferme.

(*Endorsed.*) Item, the said John Bert shal kepe and answer of covynet partriches and fesaunts within the wareyn of Eynford and Saxthorp, so that no defaute may be found in hym by the hommages of the lordshepes."

Many other deeds relating to lands here have also been examined and summarized, viz. :—

Nine *temp.* Edw. I.
 Fifteen *temp.* Edw. III.
 Sixteen *temp.* Rich. II.
 Eight *temp.* Hen. IV.
 Eight *temp.* Hen. V.
 Three *temp.* Hen. VI.
 Eight *temp.* Edw. IV.
 Three *temp.* Hen. VIII.
 Seven *temp.* Edw. VI.
 One *temp.* Mary.
 Three *temp.* Eliz.
 Two *temp.* James I.

TINTERN ABBEY.

1513, March 10. Grant from Abbot Thomas and the Convent of St. Mary of Tinterne to Henry Palmere, of Moughton, of twenty-six acres of land, a piece of water called *The Pounds*, etc., at Acle, at an annual rent.

ST. MARY'S ABBEY, YORK.

1513, Oct. 16. Letter of Proxy from Edward [Whalley] Abbot of St. Mary's, and the Convent, to John Diatson, Prior of their cell of Romburge in the diocese of Norwich, John Longe, M.A., and Robert Burghe, Proctor General of the Consistory of Norwich, to appear on their behalf before the Bishop of Norwich, his commissaries and delegates, in all matters connected with the cell.

1563-1567. A bundle of papers relating to an arbitration by Thomas Gawdy and John Blennerhasset on a difference between William Blennerhasset and Sir Richard Southwell as to the partition of certain rights under a joint lease of Horsford Park. The correspondence contains several letters of Sir Richard Sackville, P.C., the father of Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorset.

1526. Will of Helen Carter, of Horsham.

"In Dei nomine Amen. I helyn Carter, widow, of Horsham Saint Fethes, beyng in my good mynde this 30' day of August in the yere of our Lord God MCCCCXXVI thus order my will. Inprimis I commende my soul to Almyhte God, to Our Lady Saint Mary, to the virgin and martyr Sente Feyth and all the holy company of hevn, and my body to be buried in a convenient place there as it shall please master prior of Sant Feythes or my son Dawne John Carter to doo, to wit I leve and bequeath to Master Prior of Sant Feythe and to Dawne John Carter my son all my goodis movable and unmoveable upon this condition that they dispose my said goodis in the manner following: First I will that the said M. Prior and my son Dawne John Carter shall kep me with my own goods unto the tym of my dethe, and afterwards I dispose it to the most pleasure of God as follweth, Item I will that all the profyghts of my tenement lying in the parish of Saint Olave within Noruich remain to Dawne John Carter my son for the term of his life soe that he offer every fridaie in the year on penye, and after his decease I will it shall remayne to the said prior and convent, as makith mention in a deed of gift indented which remayneth with them. Also I will that my tenement with the appurtenances thereto belonging lying in the parish of Horsham foresaid remayn to the said John my son for the term of his life so that he syng every yer by the space of xx yeares or cause to be song Seynt Gregorys trentall, and after his decease the said trentall to be song amongst the brethren of the said place for the said term afore rehersed, and so after the said term to remayn to Geoffrey Hagon and his asseyens paying the some of ten pounds to my said son as is before rehersed. Also I bequeth to the church of Horsham Seyne Feythes one acre and half of free land lying in the field of Seynte Feythe foresaid to thentent that the churchwardens of the said church shall find reparation of the crosse being in the churchyard of Horsham newly edified by me. All the residew of my goods nott bequethed I putt to the good disposition of Daun John Carter be the licens of master prior and Robert Warden, worstedman, of Noruyche foresaid, and I pray master supprior of the said monastery to be my supervisor of this my former and last will. These being witnesses, Raff — (*illegible*) and John Collett of the same town.

Also I will that Alice Parkes alias Saker have my said tenement in the parish of Saint Olaves foresaid to ferme by the space of lx yeares, according to an indenture and the obligation made to the said helyn and to her assignes or her certain attorney.

[*Endorsement.*] Be it remembered that I the said Daune John Carter within Noruich have reseyved for my modys goodys Helen Carter wyth in Norwich xlii., That ys to say for all the stuff of howyssholde and all other utensyll be langyn to the same Helen. Also here followeth the expenses. I the said Daun John Carter disposyd for my said modyr at my own meynde without any commaundment of my said modyr, In primis, for hyr beryall govyn

in elmess xxxs. Item govyn to the prior and to the convent for her beryall x^s. Item govyn for her viith day kept at ye parish church xl^d. Item for her xxxth day spent in elmess in ye said parish xxxiii^s & 4^d. Item hyr grave light the space of a yer or more vi^s & viii^d. Item the grave stone lyging upon her, at the monastery xlvs. viii^d. Item her crosse in the said parish church yeerde iiiii*li*. Item for her twelvemonths day pore folkys xii^d. Item paye for the Probate of this Elens wille xiiii^s. Item to Robert Wardon for holping of ministratyon, iiij^s. Item for hyer beryall cloth called an herse cloth xiiii.^[s.] Item ye latyn plate of her obite day in the monastery . . . viii^s . . . in any wyse said Robert Warden kepe the seyde will term of his life . . . Indenture of thre parts, on for the convent, anodyr for the parish church, the third for Alice Parker, and after the said Robertes deceas to be delivered on to the supprior of the monastery the supervysor of the said will to remain in a common coffyr of theyrs, that the said M. Prior and covent and the foresaid parish church may have ther bequests that the said Elen gave them by this present testament.

Summa totalis expensarum per me Joh. Carter xiii*li*. xii*s*. iiiii^d."

LANGLEY ABBEY.

MANOR ROLLS. Between 1265 and 1648.

COURTS AND COURTS GENERAL (no Court Lete occurs) for the years :—

- Henry III. 49.
- Edward II. 16-20.
- Edward III. 1-49.
- Henry IV. 49.
- Henry V. 1-9.
- Henry VI. 31-39.
- Edward IV. 1-3, 5, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22.
- Richard III. 2. Also extracts.
- Henry VII. 1, 2-18, 20, 23, 24 ; and for Carleton Bastewyk, 1. Also extracts.
- Henry VIII. 1, 8-13, 30-35. For Carleton Bastwyk, 21, 23, 24. Also a bundle of extracts.
- Edward VI. 3-7. Also extracts.
- Mary. A bundle of extracts.
- Elizabeth. 2-44 (some in draft). 9-10 is the first court of Richard Barney, with roll of tenants having rights of common on Lang Marshe. There are also a number of drafts relating to Richard Barney's rights in the manor. Also a bundle of various extracts.
- James I. 1-5, 14-22. The latter are the courts of Sir Henry Hobart. Also a bundle of extracts.
- Charles I. A bundle of extracts.

BAILIFFS' ACCOUNT ROLLS, between 1461 and 1608 :—

Edward IV. 1-8 (7-8 a copy ?)

Henry VIII. The Collector's account for 2 October, 28 (1537, the year of the Dissolution). Also an extract for 29.

Elizabeth. 26-45.

James I. 1-5.

1289. Extent and Rental of the Abbot's Manor of Langley, 17 Edw. I. Parchment; a fine folio volume, in excellent condition; ff. 81.

"Extentum de manerio de Langele cum omnibus pertinentiis suis ut in villis de Laungele, Hardele, Chategrave, Thurtone et Bergh ac Carletune," made in 1288-9, in the time of abbot Adam de Phileby, "per manum fratris Ricardi de Hanewrth, ejusdem monasterii canonici."

On eight leaves at the beginning of the volume are these miscellaneous entries :—1. Rents belonging to the office of sacrist. 2. Full description of all the marshes belonging to the abbey. 3. Tithes of Langley in Hardele. 4. "Noticia diversarum aquarum jacentium apud mariscum de Lynes." 5. Writ dated 6 July, 2 Hen. IV., to abbot John to restore land to Henry Inglose, esq. 6. Grant by abbot Nicholas of land to Denis Wylles, 21 Hen. VI. 7. Particulars of lands in Hardele, Langmershe, &c., with the free tenants in Hardele. 8. "Extente herbagii in Chattgrave et Hardele pertinencia ad manerium Grange." 9. "Rentale Johannis filii Thome Berneye, militis, de manerio suo in Norton juxta Hekyngham." 10. Plea at the assizes at Great Jernemuth, 49 Edw. III., in a case against Sir Thomas de Verney, knt., and Nicholas Hardhend for unjust disseisin of Katherine who was the wife of John de Berney. 11. Note of land held by Thomas de Berney, knt. 12. Note of homage made to abbot Ralph at Hekyngham, 12 July, 28 Edw. fil. Hen. 13. Rents acquired by the abbot from Sir John Reveshale, knt., 5 Edw. II.

The personal services rendered by the tenants are very fully set out in the Rental. Of these the following extract relating to one holding affords a sufficient specimen.

"Galfridus Griel qui est quinque akering tenet de villenagio Abbatis et conventus septem acras et unam rodam, quarum duæ acræ et dimidia, in quibus continetur messuagium suum, jacent in crufta sua inter cruftam quæ fuit de domo Pres et Thome Bigot. Et debet operari annuatim pro tenemento suo videlicet a festo S. Mich. usque ad festum S. Martini, per sex septimanas, duodecim dimidios dies a mane usque ad nonam, sine cibo; prec. cujuslibet diei unius oboli. Et a festo S. Martini usque ad Natale Domini, per sex septimanas, sex dimidios dies a mane usque ad nonam, sine cibo; prec. diei ut supra. Non debet operari in prima septimana Natalis Domini. Et a Circumcisione Domini usque ad festum Sancte Crucis in Maio, per septendecim septimanas, septendecim dimidios dies, a mane usque ad nonam, sine cibo; prec. diei ut supra. Et a

festum Sancte Crucis predicto usque ad festum Johannis Baptiste, per octo septimanas, sexdecim dimidios dies a mane usque ad nonam, sine cibo; prec. diei ut supra. Et a festo Sancti Johannis Baptiste usque ad gulam Augusti, per quinque septimanas, decem dies integros, sine cibo; prec. cujuslibet diei unius denarii. Et a gula Augusti usque ad festum Sancti Michaelis, per octo septimanas, viginti quatuor dies integros, sine cibo; prec. diei cujuslibet trium obolorum. Qui quidem viginti quatuor dies accipiendi sunt circa blada secanda et colligenda, mediante equitate et justicia, ne nimis cito accipiantur. Et debet facere tres dies integros precarios in autumpno, cum uno repastu quolibet dierum; prec. diei unius denarii. Et debet arare cum una caruca integra a festo Sancti Martini usque ad Natale Domini qualibet quindena unam arruram; prec. cujuslibet arrure duorum denariorum et oboli. Et a Circumcisione Domini usque ad festum Sancte Crucis in Maio, per septendecim septimanas, qualibet quindena unam integram arruram; prec. unius arrure trium denariorum et oboli.

Si autem Prior et conventus in festo Sancte Crucis predicto non plene persemnaverint set necessario oportet ipsos uberius seminare, si semnaverint ultra dictum diem Sancte Crucis per unam septimanam, tunc faciet unam dimidiam arruram, et habebit in predicta dimidia arrura allocationem unius dimidii diei de minutis operibus suis. Sed ista ultima arruera non ponitur ad precium cum ceteris arruris quia raro accidit. Et debet facere unum averagium per annum usque Riveshal ut alibi ad tot leucas; prec. averagii duorum denariorum. Sed in faciendo dictum averagium habebit allocationem unius diei dimidii, qui valet obolum. Et sic averagium in se valet tres obolos. Et debet averagiare per aquam quotiens turnus ad eum venerit, sed habebit ea quæ sibi necessaria fuerint in cibo et potu. Et cum redierit et si super averagium per septimanam aut amplius moram traxerit, habebit allocationem unius diei aut dimidii tunc secundum diversitatem temporis anni. Et debet falcare in majori prato cum uno homine, et habebit cibum suum, videlicet unum repastum tunc. Et debet colligere et cassare in eodem prato cum uno homine sine cibo; prec. falcationis et cassationis unius denarii. Et debet unam gallinam ad Natale Domini, prec. unius denarii, et septem ova ad Pascham, prec. unius quadrantis. Et faciet tres cumbos brasii vel dabit duos denarios."

The last eight leaves are a cartulary for Langle, Hardele, Lodnes, and Nortun, and on the reverse of the last leaf is the descent of the family of Roger Fitz Roger the founder.

MISCELLANEOUS DEEDS.

1535. Extent of Langley Manor, and Copy of Roger Berney's Voucher to purchase the Manor from the King's Commissioners 27 Henry VIII.

1537. Patent of grant of Langley Abbey. 28 Henry VIII, (27 Jan.)

1576. A Draft Rental, 18 Eliz.

A number of 16th century Rentals.

Boundaries of Gilbert's land ? *Temp.* James I.

Extent and Rental of Roger Berney's manors of Chetgrave, Langley, etc. (undated).

A book containing copies of deeds, extents and rolls of the manor of Carleton Bastwyks, Banyards, etc.

There are between forty and fifty other Deeds relating to Langley from the time of Edw. II. to 1696.

A large and very minute map, on paper, of all the lands of the manor of Langley; *temp.* Charles I. (The watermark on the paper is a flower-pot with a crescent above; this is found used from about 1630 to 1645.)

DISPUTED RIGHT of a PARISHIONER to ATTEND HIS PARISH CHURCH.

1603. "Dr. Redmayne's letter in the behalf of Burgh parish against Langley" (endorsement). Directed "To his lovinge freinds Mr. Cooe, parson of Burrough Castle, and to Mr. Butts, vicar of Langley." "Whereas the Inhabitants and dwellers in Ravenshall in Norff. have by the space of threescore yeares, or thereabouts, repayred upon Sabboth Dayes, ffestivall dayes and other tymes appointed for publique prayer by the lawes and statutes of this realme of England to the parishe church of Burrough Castle, and not to the parishe church of Langly, being distant from Ravenshall by the space of viii miles, and the inhabitants in that howse have by the tyme before mencioned receyved the sacraments in the parishe church of Burrough Castle aforesaid, and ther' paid their offeringes and oblacions, and performed all other sacramental rites: And for that, the premisses notwithstanding, Edmond Gedge the now fermer or dweller in the said howse is lett and hindered by the needlesse contention of you and pretended claim that you do make, to have him your parishioner to heare Devine service in the parishe church of Burrough Castle* as I am informed: theis are to require you without further disturbance to permitt and suffer the said Edmond and his famelye to repaire and resorte to the parishe church of Burrough Castle aforesaid upon Sabboth dayes and holye dayes and at other tymes appointed for publique prayer by the lawes of this realme untill you shall by due course of lawe prove and evict him for your parishioner; and further to require you the parson of the church of Burrough Castle aforesaid to admitt him the said Edmond and his famely, without sufferinge the church of Burrough Castle aforesaid beinge in possession of him to be dispoyled in that behalfe without lawfull and due prooffe made by the parson or vicar of Langley in that behalfe required: And so I bid you farewell: Norwiche, this xiiij of March, 1602.

Your very lovinge freind,

R[OBERT] REDMAYNE."

* [Read Langley?]

WYMONDHAM.

MANOR ROLLS. With the various MANORS of GRESHAUGH (or GREISHEIGHE), CROMWELLS, BARNAK, SUTTON, SILFELD, WATTELFELD, NORTON, RUSTEYNS, and KNYVETTS. Between 1272 and 1664.

COURTS, COURTS GENERAL AND COURTS LETE for the years:—

Edward I. 1-35.

Edward II. 1, 2, 4, 6-20, except 15. (2 is the first court of Joan de Tateshall; 4, the first court of Thomas de Cailly; 12, of Robert de Ufford; 19 and 20, the courts of Joan de Driby, all in Wymondham Manor.)

Edward III. 1-9, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21-28, 30, 33-51. (41 is the court of Ralph Crumbwell at Wymondham; 48 is the first court of John Clyfton at Old Bukenham.)

Richard II. 1-10, 13-18, 20, 21.

Henry IV. 1-14.

Henry V. 1-10.

Hen. VI. 1-38. Year 12, for Wymondham, contains a copy of writ to the Escheator to give seisin to John, son and heir of Constantine Clyfton, of all the lands and tenements that Margaret, the widow of Constantine, had in dower and otherwise to the end of her life. 27 is the first court of the feoffees of Sir John Clyfton, R[oger] Lord Say, Andrew Oyard and others.

Edward IV. 1-22. 16 is the first court of William Knyvett and Joan his wife, daughter of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, for Wymondham and Wymondham Gryshaugh.

Richard III. 1, and various other rolls.

Henry VII. 3-13, 24.

Henry VIII. 1-28, except 11.

Mary. 1; and Philip and Mary. 1.

Elizabeth. 1-21, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40. 12 is the first court for Gryshaugh of Roger Woodhouse, executor of the will of Thomas Knyvett, knight. 30-31 is the first court of Thomas Lovel, Francis Woodhouse, Philip Audeley, esquires, inquisitors of the manor of Wymondham under a settlement on Thomas Knyvett and Katherine his wife and their heirs. 39 is the first court of William Downs for Wymondham Gryshaugh.

James I. 1-22. 8 is the first court of Philip Knyvett for Grysaugh Knyvett. 9 is View of Frankpledge.

Charles I. 6-33, 1651-1664. 7 is for Wymondham Regis. For Wymondham Cromwells in 1651-1661 the courts are those of Lady Frances Hobart.

BAILIFFS' and PROVOSTS' ACCOUNT ROLLS, between 1281 and 1564:—

Edward I. For the years 9, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24.

Edward II. 6, 7, 10, 15, 19.

- Edward III. 1-9, 11, 12, 14-17, 24-27, 32, 34, 36-38, 41-50 (except 44). Ralph Lord Cromwell occurs as Lord of the Manor for the years 16-17, 45-48. There are "*Serviens*" Accounts for 4-5, 31-32; and an audit of Bailiff's Accounts for 26.
- Richard II. 1-22. 1-2 are the accounts of the Receivers and Bailiff of John de Clyfton. In 8 and 9 Richard Kette is Provost for Wymondham. For 18 and 19 there are the accounts of the Receivers of Constantine de Clyfton for Wymondham manor. For 20 and 21 those of the Bailiff of Gilbert Talbot for Wymondham Grisaugh. For 21 and 22 those of the receipts in Lord Cromwell's manor following the date of the death of the lord. For 22 and 23 the Court is that of Lady Matilda Cromwell, of Tatis-hall. There are Messors' accounts for Sutton, Silfeld, Wattelfeld and Norton for the years 2-16, 21 and 22, and "*Serviens*" for 18 and 19.
- Henry IV. 1-14, except 12. In 3 and 4 J. Parker acts for William Hervy, Provost of Wymondham Manor. In 8 a Deputy Provost acts for Elizabeth Sporell, also of Wymondham. In 5 Hugh Kette is Provost for Wymondham. There are Messors' accounts for Silfeld, Sutton, etc., 1-12.
- Henry V. 1-8, except 6. 4 is for Bokenham Castle. There are Messors' accounts for Silfeld, etc. 2-10, except 6. John Hardenheth is Messor.
- Henry VI. 1-38, with a few exceptions. There are Farmers' accounts for 27, 28, 36, 37. Messors' for 1-38, with a few exceptions. "*Officium receptoris in com. Norff.*": An account of manors, lands, tenements, and other possessions of Ralph Lord Cromwell for the years 9-10, 16-17.
- Edward IV. 1, 2, 3, 10-20, except 19. There are Messors' accounts, 10-20, except 19.
- Richard III. 1 and 2 for Bailiff's, Messor's and Market account.
- Henry VII. 1-14, 17-18, 22-25. There are the accounts of Bokenham Castle for 3-4; of the Market Bailiff for 4-7, 9-10, 15, 16, 21, 22; of the Messor for 1-25, (3-24 is '*ex parte Fitzwilliam*'). The Woodman's accounts also occur for 12-25.
- Henry VIII. 1-3, 7-10, 12-24. Also various accounts on paper.
- Mary. Philip and Mary. 1-5. Also Provost's accounts for 4 and 5 for Rusteyns, Calthorp, Gunvile manor.
- Eliz. 1 and 6.
- James I. Various officers' accounts on paper from Henry VIII. to James I.

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS and DEEDS.

A bundle of old Rentals, mostly undated. One of 19 Edward I. (1291) contains a return of the proceeds of a sale of oak timber.

An ancient extent, undated.

Rental (containing 16 leaves), *temp.* Edward III.

1399. An extent and customary of Wymondham Grisaugh.
1 Henry IV.

Another, undated, of Gresaugh and Norton.

1400-1. Rental and Customary of Wymondham Grysheigh;
and Rental and Customary of Wymondham 'Crunqwelle.'
2 Henry IV.

1423. Sir Ralph Cromwell's Rental and Customary of manor
of Rokels Lyttebar. (10 ?) Henry V.

1454. Extract of Ralph Cromwell's will.

1515. Rental for Wymondham Rusteyns. 6 Hen. VIII.

An abuttal of lands in Wymondham, with a Pedigree of the
family of Barnard, *temp.* James I.

A rental of Wymondham Grisaugh and Norton, *temp.* James I.

1624, 4 Aug. A list of accounts and documents.

1638, 10 Oct. Finding of the jury as to Wymondham
Common.

Five other deeds, Henry VI.—Eliz. One of 7 Eliz. is a release
from John Flowerdew of Hethersett and his sons of their moiety
of Wymondham Cromwelle to Edward Clere.

AGREEMENT between HUMFREY BOURGCHIER and JOHN KNYVET
for assistance to the latter in recovering the MANOR of
WYMONDHAM.

1457. " This Indenture the xviii. day of November the year of
the reigne of King Henry the Sixt xxxvj, betwixt Humfrey
Bourgchier, son of Lord Bourgchier, of the one part, and John
Knyvet, cosyn and heir to John Clyfton, knight, on the other
part, wytnesseth that the same Humfrey shall be good maister
and frend to the said John Knyvet and support hym as far as
the lawe will, and help him to recover all the manor, londes, and
tenements in the Counti of Norfolk, the which were late the said
John Clyfton knight, and of the which the said John Clyfton died
seised; whos heyre the said John Knyvet is, that is to say sone
to Elizabeth suster to the said John Clyfton knight, as it
apperith of record in the chaunncerie be an office founde befor
sertain commyssioners by vertue of a comysion in nature of a
diem clausit extremum to them direct, and forasmuch as the said
John Knyvet is cousin to Johane the wyffe of the said Humfrey,
the said Humfrey graunteth to the said John Knyvet that he
shall bere and pay to the said John Knyvet as moch sylver as
shall grow to the third part of the reasonable costys to the
recovery of the said livelode, and that as well the counsel of the
said Humfrey as the counsell of the said John Knyvet shall be
helping, consorting and assisting to the recovery of the said live-
lode on assent whan they therto ben reasonable required, and

that the said Humfrey or his servautes or other persons for him shall ride and goo wit the said John Knyvet for the expedition of the said recovery when thei shall be required thertoo conveniently reasonable, as law will, consideryng the said cosenage between the said parties had. And the said John Knyvet bi theis presents willeth and graunteth that he within iii yere immediately folowing after the recovery of the said livelode bi his dede under his seal of armys, or ellys under the selys of his feffes if ony, be enfeffed in the two parts of the manor of Wymondham, and shall make or do to be made a sufficient seur and a lawful estate of and upon the said two partes of the said manor of Wymondham in the Counti of Norfolk to the said Humfrey, and to the said Johane his wyff: To have and to hold the said 2 parts of the said manor to the said Humfrey and Johane for term of both their lives, the remaynder therof to the said John Knyvet and to his heyres of his body lawfully begotten, and for defawte of the issue of them the remaynder ther of to the right heyres of the said Humfrey and Johane and ther bodies lawfully begotten and to ther heyres. Moreover the said John Knyvet willeth and graunteth and be the present writing assenteth that the said Humfrey imediately after that the said John Knyvet hath recovered the said livelode, shall resseyve and take all the issues profits and comodities of the said 2 partes as his owen proper godes with ought account gevyng to the said John Knyvet or to his executor. In the wytnesse wherof the parties aforesaid to these Indentures interchangeable have sette ther seales. Given the day and year above rehersed."

VARIOUS MANORIAL RECORDS.

KESWICK.*

MANOR ROLLS.

ACCOUNT ROLLS, between 1302 and 1500 :—

Edward I. Accounts for the years 30-31.

Edward II. Provost's accounts for the years 2 and 3.

Messor's for 6 and 7. Servant's for 13 and 14.

Edward III. Accounts of corn and stores to the end of the year 4. Accounts for 19-20, 30-31, 41, 42, 44-50.

Henry VI. Farmer's accounts for the years 1-2, 35-36.

Bailiff's for 23 and 34 for Freethorp Manor. Accounts for Keswick, Rusteyn, Raynesthorp and Tacolveston, years 33, 34.

Edward IV. Farmer's accounts for the years 7-8, 12, 17, 21-22. Bailiff's and farmer's for Rusteyns Manor for 16 and 17.

Richard III. Farmer's for the years 2 and 3.

Henry VII. Farmer's for the years 4-6, 8-11. Bailiff's for Freethorp Manor for 9 and 10. For Rusteyns Manor for 14 and 15.

* Keswick occurs as Kestwyk, *temp.* Edw. I.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Henry III. or Ed. I. A rental (in French), with endorsement by Ralph de Vaux, remitting talliage to his native tenants, they being bound in return to distribute a certain quantity of bread yearly to the poor.

6 Hen. IV. An audit of certain accounts with the lady of the manor.

A bundle of four deeds, the first, undated, being a grant from Alexander son of Alexander de Waus (Vaux), to his brother Ralph, Rector of the church of Keswyk, of one messuage, with two houses, &c., in Keswyk: witnesses, Ralph de Tyvill and others; two releases by John de Vaux, *temp.* Edw. I.; and a release by Peter, son of William le Monk of Gouthorp.

1-2 Henry VI. A list of rolls and accounts, with a copy of a writ summoning the Justices to Thetford "for the correction of such offences and riotes as of late have been doone in our citee of Norwyche."

There are also other deeds relating to land in Keswick: five *temp.* Ed. I., one of Ed. II., five of Edward III., one of Richard II., three of Henry IV., two of Henry V., three of Henry VI., and three of Edward IV.

AYLSHAM* AND AYLSHAM LANCASTER.

MANOR ROLLS. Between 1450 and 1610.

COURTS, COURTS GENERAL AND COURTS WITH LETE:—

Henry VI. 28-39.

Edward IV. 1-23. (The 5th year is the 1st Court of the Excellent Lady Elizabeth, Queen of England. The 8th year is the "Turn" of the Chief Steward, Lord Scales.)

Richard III. 1-2.

Henry VII. 1-24.

Henry VIII. 1-38. (Courts "Domin. Regis Ducat. sue Lancastrie,"—with and without view of Frankpledge and Lete. In the 28th year Henry is first styled Supreme Head of the English Church.)

Edward VI. 1-7.

Mary. 1-2. Philip and Mary. 1-6. (3-4 is for Aylsham Lancaster.)

Elizabeth. 1-43 for both manors. There is View of Frankpledge with Courts Baron.

James I. 1-7.

RENTAL.

1631. A rental of Aylsham Lancaster.

* Aylsham occurs as Aylysham *temp.* Hen. VIII. and Ed. VI. and as Ailsham *temp.* Elizabeth.

, INTWOOD.

MANOR ROLLS.

COURTS AND COURTS LETE, between 1274 and 1509 :—

Edward I. 2 and 3.

Richard II. 17, extract.

Henry V. 9 and 10.

Henry VI. 1-18, 20, 28-35, 38, 39, 41.

Henry VII. 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 18, 21, 24. (1 is the 1st Court of Catherine Jenny, widow. 12 is the 1st Court of William Jenny, sen.)

PROVOSTS' AND BAILIFFS' ACCOUNT ROLLS, between 1335 and 1603 :—

Edward III. 8 and 20.

Henry VII. 35-36 (with Mulbarton).

Elizabeth. 23, 24-29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 38, 40, 44. (40 is the first Court of William Gresham. 42 is the first Court of Sir Henry Hobart.)

James I. 1.

There are also a few Deeds relating to land in 'Intwode' : one undated, one *temp.* Edward III. ; one *temp.* Rich. II. ; and one *temp.* Henry VI.

For the following Parishes in Norfolk there are detached Manor Rolls :—

Ingworth.—Between 1571 and 1649.

Courts and Courts Lete :—

Elizabeth. 13-44. (The Queen holds the Court for Thomas Hoo, esq., a minor.)

James I. 1-5.

Also for the years 1634-1637, 1638, 1642, 1644, 1649.

Erpingham.

Extracts of Lete Roll :—

Elizabeth. 39.

James I. 1, 2, 4.

View of Frankpledge for Ingworth, Colby, Tuttington, Erpingham, *temp.* James I.

One Deed relating to land here, *temp.* Edward III.

Irmingland.

An undated Rental.

Three Deeds relating to land here, viz. two *temp.* Rich. II., one of Henry IV. (John Eloynes occurs as a landowner *temp.* Rich. II. Also Edmund Kempe, Nicholas Daunger, Roger Barker, Robert Nally.)

1386. A house with appurtenances is mentioned 9. Rich. II, as formerly "Symneles."

WABORNE.
MANOR ROLLS.

COURTS AND COURTS LETE :—

Edward II. 15(?) being then the manor of Oliver de Burdeaux.
Henry VIII. 2, 6-18, 38 (a copy).
Edward VI. 1-2.
Elizabeth. 36.

BAILIFF'S ACCOUNTS :—

Henry VIII. 14-37.

OTHER DOCUMENTS.

1519. Abuttal and survey of Lady de Veer's manor of Waborne for the year 11 Henry VIII.

A perambulation of bounds of the same year.

1572. A lease of Waborne by De Vere, Earl of Oxford, to — Clopton. 14 Eliz.

1656. A release of the manor, etc., by Sir William Paston to Sir John Hobart.

THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER.

ACCOUNT ROLLS OF THE RECEIVERS FOR NORFOLK, SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGE, between 1385 and 1408 :—

Richard II. 8, 9 (Adam Pope, Receiver), 23 (Edmund Oldhalle, "King's Receiver").

Henry IV. 1, 2, 8-9 (Edmund Oldhalle, Receiver).
Indenture of arrears of officers' accounts, "anno xiii." (?)

MISCELLANEOUS MANOR ROLLS.

Gymingham.

Provosts' Account Rolls, between 1382 and 1410 :—

Richard II. 5, 6, 8, 9, 16-20. In the Roll for 5-6 there is mention of forfeiture of John Trunch for treason and insurrection. For the 7th year, May 9, "quo die manerium ibidem cum pertinentibus liberatum comiti de Bukyngham ad firmam per dimissionem."

Henry IV. 10, 11.

Matlask.

Court Lete :—

Henry IV. 1, 2. (2 is the first Court of Robert de Braybroke, Bishop of London, John, Bishop of Hereford, and Roger Mallory de Braybroke, feoffees. Matlask with Saxthorp.)
Saxthorp Court held at the same place. Henry IV. 6.

A small bundle of Rolls, *temp.* Richard II., Henry VII., (drafts) and Elizabeth.

Causton.—1387-97.

Court Lete:—

Richard II. 10, 11, 16, 19, 20.

Wood Dalling and Dalling Hall Monceaux:—

General Court Roll:—

Henry VIII. 10.

Philip and Mary. 5-6.

Martham.—1351.

Court Roll:—

Edward III. 25, the 7th of the Priorate of Simon Bozoun
[Prior of Holy Trinity, Norwich].

Tunstede.—1406-7.

Provost's Account:—

Henry IV. 7-8.

Methwolde.—1408-1492.

Provosts' and Bailiffs Accounts for the years:—

Henry IV. 9-10.

Henry VI. ?

Henry VII. 6, 7.

Congham.

Court Roll:—

Temp. Edward IV.

Burnham Thorp.—1384-5.

Bailiff's Account:—

Richard II. 7-8.

CARROW ABBEY.

CELLARERS' ACCOUNTS, between 1457 and 1530:—

Henry VI. 34, 35. (Margaret Pygotte, Prioress.)

Richard III. 2, 3. (Margaret Palmer, Prioress.)

Henry VIII. 20, 21.

MANOR ROLLS.

Marlingforth.

COURTS AND COURTS GENERAL WITH LETE, 1489-1557:—

Henry VII. 4-15, 19, 20.

Henry VIII. 12 is "Curia cum Leta prima Edwardi Ponynge,
Willelmi Boleyn, militum et al., ad usum Johannis
Paston militis et Agnetæ uxoris ejus et heredum."

Philip and Mary. 1-4, the courts of Clement Paston.

Swerdeston.

1506. Account Roll for the year Henry VII. 21.

Deeds Relating to Land there.

One undated.

One *temp.* Edward I.

Four *temp.* Edw. III.

Three *temp.* Henry V.

Three *temp.* Henry VI.

One *temp.* Henry VII.

1588. Sir Edward Clere, of Blicklinge, grants a lease of the Rectory of Swerdeston, late belonging to Carrow Abbey (granted to him by letters patent of Queen Eliz.), to Roger Styth.

MISCELLANEOUS DEEDS.

Deeds relating to the following parishes (for the most part in Norfolk) have been examined and summarized:—

Witham.

Deed relating to land *temp.* Henry III. ?

Aslacton.

An undated Deed.

Itteringham.

One undated and one *temp.* Edward I.

Mannington.

Two undated.

Southwood (Suthwode.)

One undated.

Threkeston.

One *temp.* Edw. II.

Hemlyngton.

One *temp.* Edw. III.

Buxton.

One *temp.* Edw. III.

Heynesford.

One undated.

One *temp.* Edw. III.

One *temp.* Henry IV.

One *temp.* Edw. IV.

Plumstead.

One *temp.* Edw. III.

One *temp.* Rich. II.

One *temp.* Henry IV.

Two *temp.* Henry VI.

Two *temp.* Edward. IV.

There is also an extent for *Witton* and *Plumpstead* for the year 12 Henry VIII., 1520.

Witton.

One, *temp.* Henry IV.

Ketteringham.

One, *temp.* Henry VI.

One, „ Henry VIII.

One, „ James I. 7.

The last is the conveyance of the rectory of Ketteringham to Mr. Henry Hobart.

Combes.

Two, *temp.* Edw. IV.

One, *temp.* Elizabeth.

Tacolneston.

One, *temp.* Edw. IV.

Two, *temp.* Henry VI.

South Walsham.

Record of Assize.

Horsford.

One, *temp.* Edw. VI.

Brampton.

One, *temp.* Edw. VI.

Marsham.

One, *temp.* Edw. VI.

Extent of manor of Marsham, *temp.* Charles I.?

Scottowe.

Six, *temp.* James I., mostly relating to a mill there.

Kelling.

One, *temp.* James I.

*Hethersett.**Mulbarton and Brakne.—*

1316. An extent, containing a transcript of the Escheat Roll made on the suppression of the Templars in the Hundred of Humbleyard.—9 Edw. II.

Acle.

One undated.

Two *temp.* Henry VII., one of which is a grant of land with “leed querns and hayer and all that is rote fast and nayle
“fast;” 1485.

1544. An abuttal of the year 36 Hen. VIII.

Loddon.—1577.

Deed of assignment of a term of years in the Rectory of Loddon. 19 Eliz.

Rivyshall (in Suffolk).—1587.

Conveyance of manors in Rivyshall and Rawlyns in Rivyshall, with a schedule of tenants holding for a thousand years.

Chetgrave and Hardeley—

An extent; 1675.

SETCH.

Robert de Hastings grants to Matilda, his daughter, and her lawful heirs all his lands in the vills of Scethich, Midleton, Rungetun, Westwinch, Ley and Herdewyc, with remainder to himself and his heirs if she should die without issue; reserving rent of $6\frac{3}{4}d.$, four “atilia” [implements] and one clove.—Not dated.

STRATTON.

1300. Alice, formerly wife of John de Lundres, of Stratton, grants to Sarra daughter of Will. de Merkeshalle, of Stratton, half an acre of her land lying on the field at Stratton.—Sunday after St. Hilary, 28 Edward I.

Witnesses: Hen. le Cat, John de Refham, Will. de Leveshaye, John Philip of Stratton, John the Clerk of Hevingham, Richard de Lundres of Stratton, Alfred de Horning of Stratton, and others.

1363. William Breton, “de comitatu Essex,” grants to William son of Robert Clere and Dyonesia his wife, all his right in the third part of the manor of Stratton by Buxton, etc.

1378. Matilda, formerly wife of Henry de Berney, grants to William Clere of Ormesby and Dionicia his wife, Hervey parson of the church of Stratton by Hevingham, Robert atte Northous of Ormesby, and the heirs of the said William, four pieces of land in Stratton.—Vigil of St. Peter and St. Paul, 2 Rich. II.

1529. A Rental of John Wekythyll in Stratton.

There are also 14 other deeds relating to land here, *tempp.* Edw. II.—Eliz.

BROMHOLM.

1312. A lease of the Priory lands at Wood Norton by William Prior of Bromholm and the Convent.—5 Edward II.

1412. Clement, prior of the church of St. Andrew of Bromholm, and the Convent, release to Simon Felbrigge and Robert Berneye, kts., Edmund Oldhalle, Robert Wynter, clerk, John Drew, parson of Harpelee, and William Howlyn, parson of Plumstede, a rent of 4s. arising from lands and tenements in Corpesty leased to the said feoffees for thirty years. Conventual Seal attached; red wax: St. Andrew sitting in the porch of a church with a tower on each side; in his right hand a double cross, in his left a book; and a small nich above, the Virgin and Child; “Sigillum . . . Andree de Bromholm.” This is different from the seal engraved in Dugdale’s *Monasticon*.—1 March, 13 Henry IV.

WEST BARSHAM.

1361. Indenture of grant by Rauf de Cromewelle to Osman Gurnay of the wardship and marriage of William Fitzwilliam, heir-at-law of Marjorie widow of John de Mereworth, for 36 marks.—Monday before St. John Baptist, 35 Edw. III.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

1392. Nicholas Wildgos, burgess of Great Yernemouth, releases to John son of Robert de Rollesbi, all his claim in one messuage with the "fisshus" and all other buildings and appurtenances, formerly Richard Fastolf's. Witn., John de Rendle, John de Elys, William Exneye, Robert atte Gappe . . . , bailiffs of Yermuth.—Sat., f. of St. Petronella virg., 15 Rich. II.

BUTTELE.

1445. William Poley, prior of St. Mary of Buttele, and the Convent, demise to Edward Palmer, of Wytton in Bromholm, and Robert his son, the manor of West Somerton for 7 years at a rent of 24*l.*—St. Matthias, 23 Hen. VI.

WEST SOMERTON.

1552. Sir E. Fynes, knight, Lord Clynton and Saye, Admiral of England, conveys to Sir Thomas Woodhouse, of Waxham, the reversion of the manor of West Somerton, formerly belonging to the monastery of Butley, on the death of the Lady Anne of Cleevys.—19 March, 6 Edw. VI.

1456-57. Accounts of Robert Brampton, General Receiver of Elizabeth, Lady Dacre.

1515-17. An account of all the manors of John Veer, knight, in right of his wife Elizabeth, sister and heir-at-law of William Trussel.

1517. A charter of the Lady Catherine (of Arragon) to her tenants of the honour of Clare.

1527. An account of the manors of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, in right of his wife Elizabeth, sister and heiress of Edward Trussel.

1546. Conveyance to trustees by Richard Southwell of all his property for his own use, with remainder to Richard Southwell, *alias* D'Arcy, gent.—37 Hen. VIII.

1550. Audit of accounts of John Woodhouse, esq., supervisor of all the flocks of Richard Southwell, knight.

1557. The account of the sheep of John Corbett the elder, esquire, made by Robert Newman, "shepereve," and others, for one year.

1572. Indenture with schedule of manors included in the wardship of Richard Barney. Signed by William Cecil and R. Keeling.

Papers referring to the property of Sir Richard Southwell and a case in Chancery of Richardson *v.* Doyly. *Temp.* James I.

1603. Benedict Camp to Sir H. Hobart. Conveyance of the wardship of Thos. Neve.

Letter of William Trussel.

Ma très chère dame,

J'ay entendu par vos lettres en partie la manière des alienacions et enfeffemens de terres Mons. Robert de Matteshale q'fuiſt votre mary, et auxuit que vous plect ſavoir coment jay doné conngé à Phelip votre filz, et auxuit que vous moi requeretz avoir respite de s'vīs que moi devetz à cause de les t'rēs que vous tenetz de moy en chief la quel je vous ottray. Madame tāk ma veux purra être en vos parties et endroit de conngé Phelip votre filz ceo est d'aler et revenir come un autre gentilz home de meyne. Et de puis que joe ai hu ſey'syng de luy, jeo luy ai effert mariage convenable come appartient soloin la loy en ſaluacion de mon droit. Et ſi vous plect en le même tems fere gré soloin réson pur son mariage et ceo que a moy partient a mesure la cause jeo dorrai pleyn poar a Mons. Robert de Salle et a Will. de Hastings et a Sir Thomas Hikelynge chanon de Wayburn de trêter et acorder en vous ma Dame soloin réson. Et ſi ceo ne vous plect ma Dame moy covendra poursuivre mon recoverir par loy en ſaluacion de mon droit heritage.

A Dieu ma tr' chē Dame qui vous eyt en ſa garde.

Escrit a Lonndres le xxx. jō de Martz.

WILLM. TRUSSEL DE CUBLEDEN.

[1551.] 28 May, 4 Ed. VI. Copy of letters patent granting to Thomas Audeley, Esq., in consideration "boni veri fidelis et magnanimi servitii in conflictu versus innaturales subditos nostros proditores ac nobis rebelles in Com. nostro Norf. per nos dudum habito et facto, et in correctione et subductione eorundem, multis variisque modis præstiti et impensi, quorum quidam rebellorum et proditorum quidam Robertus Knight alias dictus Robertus Kett, existit capitaneus et conductor," all our manors of Meliorshall and Lethers hall, alias Leters, now called Gunvyles, and all that manor called Gunvyles manor in Norfolk, parcel of the possessions of the said Robert Knyght otherwise the said Robert Kett.

There are also many deeds which have not been summarized but are arranged in parcels according to their dates, viz. :—

5 Miscellaneous deeds <i>temp.</i> Rich. III.			
35	"	"	Henry VII.
42	"	"	Henry VIII.
4	"	"	Philip and Mary.
102	"	"	Elizabeth.
45	"	"	James I.
23	"	"	Charles I.
9	"	"	Charles II.

SECTION II.

THE HOBART PAPERS. 1601—1751.

1601, March 5.—Copy of an Order of the Court of the DUCHY OF LANCASTER.

Adjusting the rights of common in the “firre ground” or “bruery” at Aylsham.

N.D. [1592-1607 ?].—Resolucons and advise uppon a Statute touchinge the Releif of the Poore and vagabon by the L. CHEIFE JUSTICE OF ENGLAND.*

None ought to be sente to the places of their birthe or habitacons but such onlie as are vagrante or wanderinge and not any that hath any dwellinge in any parishe, or be settled with their parents or any other in any parishe.

Resolutions. The husband, wief and children that are vagrante and wandringe being borne in severall parishes must be delte with all in this manner, that is to saye, the wief must goe with the husband to the parishe where he was borne, and not to be divided the one from the other, the children that are above 7 yeres of age must after they are whipped be sent to the parishes where they were severally borne. But those children under the age of 7 yeres, bycause they are not within the degree of vagabondes, must goe with their parents, not where they were borne or last abidinge.

Advise. Where there are multitudes of poore through idlenesse in all places, which if they should be whollye relieved by charitie would be more burthensome than the better sorte are able to beare: therefore it is moste conveniente that for the children betwene seven and sixteen they be put to be apprentiss and especially to husbandrye and huswiefrye whereof there is greate lacke in most places; and herein to be reported of especiallye, to ease such thereby as are overburthened through charge of children: and for the rest of the children they must laye at the charge of their parentes to be relieved by the labour of the parents.

That all suche that are in any wise able to worke, may be provided for of meanes to sett them on worke wherby they maye be able to releive themselves and their children.

That none be suffered to live merelie uppon almes, that are not merelie impotente.

* Sir John Popham (1531-1608), Lord Chief Justice 1592-1607.

Orders concerninge the Statute for the Releif of the poore,
agreed at Ilmyster, the 11th of April.

1. *Imprimis* it is ordered that all justices of peace of this sheire shall presentlie make precepts thereby commandinge the cunstables of the hundredes to bringe before them the names of the Churchwardens and 4 substantiall subsidye men of everye parishe: And in defaulte thereof fower of the most substantiall householders of every parishe within their hundred some daye in Easter weeke, the orders to be then assigned for the benefitt of the lawe to be lost (*sic*) this yere.

2. *Item* it is further agreed that upon the deliverye of the names of the Churchwardens and 4 substantiall men they shall that yere followinge be appointed overseers of the poore of ther several parishes under the handes and seales of two or more Justices of the peace of or nere the seide parishe. And at the same tyme direction given them how they shall setle and order poore accordinge to the statute.

3. *Item.* It is also agreed that the townes that are not able to releif their poore and have noe landes or other helpes shalbe in some reasonable proportion releived by such elected persons of the parish of the same hundred as to the discretion of the Justice in or nere the parishes shall seme mete, either by takinge them apprentiss, or by yeilding some weeklie contribucon to the towne for that purpose.

4. *Item.* It is also agreed that every parish shalbe rated for the releif of hospitalls and spitlehowses and such as receive losse by water or fyer within this sheire, and for the releif of the poore persons of the King's Bench or Marshalse, and the same sett downe what shalbe paide to eche hospitall, King's bench and Marshalse; and a treasurer be appointed for this yere.

5. *Item* it is also ordered that no pore person be removed out of the parish where they now dwell so long as they doe or can take any howse for their monye and doe live without charging the parish, and that no extraordinarye course be taken either to remove them, or to inhibite them to take a howse.

6. *Item,* that whosoever taketh an Inmate from henceforth excepte by assente of the Churchwardens or overseers or the most parte of them with the assente of two Justices of Peace of the lymitte, shall paye yerely or weeklie to the releife of the poore as much as he receiveth of that Inmate.

7. *Item* that such as receive any Inmate except as aforeseid, frelye shall paye weeklie to the releive of the poore of the same parishe 1^d. and if the partie be or shalbe a burthen to the parish shall paye vij^d. weeklie for every such Inmate, or enter into sufficiente bonde with good suertyes that the parishe shalbe discharged of any harme or burthen by any such Inmate.

8. *Item.* That none be suffered to goe from dore to dore in beginge but within their owne parish and that to such houses in such order as they shalbe assigned by the overseers.

9. *Item,* that such as live idllye and maye have worke or use any idle course of life as in breakinge hedges, robbing

orchyards or takeing any kynde of corne or grayne growinge in the fiede, milkinge of kyne or such like without the consente of the owners and not being able to give recompence for the same, be sente to the House of Correction there whiped and dyeted as shalbe appointed.

10. That gardening be ——— ? amonge the pore sorte and that the pore that doth worke in his owne gardinge to have 2^d a daye in weeke that he so worketh ; so that it maye appere to the overseers that there groweth good to the partie and comonweale therby.

11. *Item* that such as have any howse or cottage in any towne or parish will without the consente of the Churchwardens and overseers of the same parish, or the more parte of them lett out the same howse or howses without laying in of 4 acres of ground to the same at the least, so as the same howse have so much ground belonging to it shall paye as much to the poore of the parish yerely as he is to receive for the howse so leaten.

12. *Item* and if any such lett such howse freeleie or any cottage without assente as aforesaid to any person, then to paye weeklie for everye such tenemente to the releife of the pore 1^d and if the partie be or shalbe a burthen to the parish then to paye weeklie vij^d. for every such tenemente or enter into such bondes as is aforesaid for the discharge of the parishe.

13. *Item* that the overseers assigne none to fetch releife at any howse but as be merelie impotente or under the age of 7 yeres and such as the overseers shall well prove that their parents are not able to releife by their worke or livelihoode.

14. *Item*, that such as shalbe assigned to fetch any releife at any howse, be assigned to some howse nere and certeyne to fetch it, not wander aboute or from howse to howse at their pleasures and the howers to be assigned when they shall fetch their releife.

15. *Item* that none be suffered to have any releife for themselves or their children that doe robbe (*paper defective*) . . . or that take Inmates or succor Inmates contrary to the true meaninge of these orders.

16. *Item*, that noe bastard be releived by the Parish but the supposed fathers and mothers if they or any of them be founde to be able, and if there be any that be not able to releive their owne bastards such supposed father and mother to be sente to the House of Correction and by their worke there to releive the same.

Orders agreed and sett downe at Ilmyster the 11th of Aprill, concerninge the Statute of Rogues to be confirmed at the Sessions with such addicon as to the greater parte of the Justices there assembled should thinke meete.

1. *Imprimis* it is ordered that immediatelie uppon Easter after precepte by all the Justices of the Countye to the Cunstables and Tytheingmen to apprehend all manner of wandringe soldiours and all other idle and wandringe rogues, the meaner rogues to

punish by whiping and conveyinge by pastporte accordinge to the Statute, and such as are men able of bodye and like to be wandringe soldiours or marryners or otherwise dangerous persons to be brought before the justices to be examined and dealte with as to their discretions and accordinge to the direction of the Statute shall seme meete, and if upon examination there appeare to be wandring souldiours or marryners to be sente to the gaole to be tryed as fellows according to the statute in that behalf made or shalbe made.

2. *Item*, that a howse of correction shalbe erected at Ilchester and the howse of Taunton and Wells to be continued.

3. *Item*, it is allso ordered that a Howse of Correction shalbe erected at Willington [Wellington] to receive any rogues from the 4 wester tythings of Byngburye and the hundred of Mylverton, which our good Lord the Lord Cheife Justice of England intendeth to builde at his owne charge. And if any such orders as are sett downe for maynetenance and goverment of other such Howse of Correction in this countye shall allso extende unto that.

4. That the somes sett downe uppon the particulars, persons and hundreds under our Handes for the erecting of the Howse of Correction at Ilchester shall be levyed by distresse and sale of their goodes if they refuse to paye. . . And that aswell occupiers of landes within any Hundred or parishe shalbe taxed as the Inhabitants are, and the like to be done for such somes as shalbe hereafter imposed uppon any person or place for the maynetenance or continuance of any of the saide howse of correction.

5. That such as shalbe committed as rogues shall at the ffirste entrance be whipped untill their bodyes be blodye.

6. It is allso ordered that the cheife officers of everye parte shall by the next passenger conveye unto the partes of Ireland everye such Irish beggar as shalbe at any tyme sent them by virtue of the Statute made in this last Sessions of Parliamente for punishm^t of rogues upon payne the same officer shalbe bounde to his good behavior and to appe(ar) at the nexte Generall Quarter Sessions. And we doe order that the charge of such transportacon shalbe borne by the whole countye. And we doe order that the tresurer for the Hospitalles shall defraye such charge.

7. It is allso ordered that everye inhabitante within everye parishe or towne within this countye shall apprehende everye rogue and poore person that shall come unto howse to aske releife, or that he shall (find?) in any of his outhouses and groundes and them presentlie conveye to the Cunstable, to Titheingmen or other officers of the same place upon payne to be bounde to his good behavior, and if the officer doe not cause presentlie the same poore person or rogue to be whipped untill his bodye be blodye and then make him a pasporte out accordinge to the statute: that everye suche officer shall forfitt likewise 10s. for every rogue he shall leave unpunished according to the Statute. And the same to be levyed by way of distresses and sale of his goodes and converted to the releife of the poore of the same place.

8. It is allso ordered that at or nere everye parishe church within thes sheire there be a payer of stock and that there be presentlie provided a canvis shurte made with a bevar to come over the face of him that shalbe appointed to whippe them, and a whipp provided. And that everye rogue brought to any officer or appointed by him shalbe conveyed unto the Parishe Church and thereupon sett into the stockes and whipped by the advise of the Minister and one other of the parishe. And then conveyed by passeporte accordinge to the Statute. And it is ordered that the minister shall register the substance of the testimoniall which he is to keepe for that purpose upon payne of 5s. forfeiture for everye rogue he shall leave unregistered to be levied by distresse and sale of his goodes and to be converted to the use of theire poore there.

9. It is likewise ordered that Notice and Charge be given to the Justices of Peace nere adjoyning to the Severne or other Sea Costes, they to give speciall orders to all officers of townes and places nere the same sea costes and Severne that they suffer noe Irishe to be sett on lande which are like to live here by beginge.

[1612.]—Memorandum of questions to be referred to LEET JURY [WYMONDHAM].

Now to this Court and leete some of the ancientest tennants that hold both of the Queene and Lord to be of the Jurie.

To fynde whether they common by their tenements and lands ancientlie belonginge to these tenements or whether Alsoe by usuall custome tyme out of mynde purchased geven or discended to Any person.

Item, whether yf they purchase more Lande to their ancient tenements they may common with more cattell there than they usuallie did before by reason of such purchase.

Item, whether a tenement decaid out of memorie of man can challenge commonage by such Tenement.

Item, if he may, then whether may he keepe any more or other cattell then he can prove he kept before such dounefall as yf he use other purchased Lands lease or hired lands of other men therewyth.

To fynd yf tenants to Sir Augustin Pagraves mannor may of right common and to searche the Rolls who have beene amerced thereabouts for wrongfull commoners.

Whether new erected tenements can common.

Item, whether Butchers have not been punished for wrongfull commoners. Yt is usuallie reported they have beene and noe Butcher to common.

Item, what Incrochments have beene made by taken in any part of the commons either by ditchinge or fencinge of such dikes as lie next to the Common of any mannor of person or persons or otherwise and what person or persons hath broken the Lord's soyle either by digginge of flaggs, planting of trees, loppinge or felling of trees on the Commons or any parte of them,

DUCHY OF LANCASTER.

1614 to 1680. A number of papers relating to the Bailiwick of the DUCHY OF LANCASTER held by SIR HENRY HOBART and his successors on lease from the Crown, with correspondence relating thereto.

The MAYOR OF NORWICH to CH. JUSTICE HOBART.

1616, Jan. 25. Norwich.—Wee have received your Letters in answer of ours touching the cleyme of wood for the Hospital of this Citty, beinge arere for 22 yeres past, we are sory that the remissenes of the officers in not urginge payment from those that were the former owners of the Manor of Horsham St. Faithes hath occasioned so greate an arrerage upon y^r Ldpp., whome we have always found our honorable Friend, Yet wee are well informed that there have been demand made thereof from tyme to tyme. We have sent herewithal unto y^r Ldpp. the copy of the deed whereby the same was graunted and as we thankfully acknowledge y^r Ldpp's good Inclinacon in not withholding the same from the poore, so we shall alwaies rest ready to performe any office of love whereby our thankfulness may be manifested to your Lordshipp.

Tho. Hyrne. M[ayor].
 Thomas Pye.
 Alexander Thurston.
 Roger Runsyne.
 William Brown } Sherifs.
 Tho. Cory }
 Henry Fawcett.
 Bass. Throkmorton.

Endorsed :—The Mayor of Norwich touching the claim of wood out of St. Faith's to the Hospital.

THOMAS HYRNE to CHIEF JUSTICE HOBART.

1616[-7], Feb. 6. Norwich.—Relating to the city's claim to fuel at Horsham on behalf of the Hospital.

[1616] AYLSHAM LANCASTER. Extract from Liberty Rolls.

Mems.—The Balywicke of the Dutche my Lord Hobart had by lease for a term of yeares, unto which these severall offices be within the libertie doe belonge for which I paid 80*l.* per ann.

The office of coroner.

The office of ffeodarye and escheator.

The office of clarke of the markett.

The balywick of everye several hundred in all six : South Erpingham, North Erpingham, North Greenhoe, South Greenhoe, Smythdon and Brothercrosse.

The breaking up of writts, outlawres, felons, goods and deodands.

1616, Dec. 9. Receipt under seal of JOHN SYMTHE of Antingham, Esq, of £1,600 paid by Sir Henry Hobart, £1,100 for manor

of Blickling bought of Sir E. Clere (and the purchase money assigned to Smythe), and £500 for purchase of his (Smythe's) own land.

MILES HOBART. CONTRACT ON MARRIAGE.

1624, April 4. To all to whome this writing shall come I, Miles Hobarte of Lincolns in in the County of Middlesex, Esq., send greeting. Know ye that whereas Sir Henry Hobarte of Blickling, in the County of Norfolke, knight and Baronett, Lord Cheefe Justice of His Majesties Court of Common Pleas, my father, by an Indenture bearing date the third day of Aprill in the year of our Sovereign Lord James, by the grace of God, King of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the faith, that is to say of England France and Ireland the one and twentieth, and of Scotland the six and fiftieth, in consideration of a marriage by God's permission to be solemnized betwen me the said Miles Hobarte and dame Francis Bedinfield of Dersingham in the County of Norfolk, widow, and for the better support and maintenance of me the said Miles Hobarte and Dame Frances, hath granted one anuety or yearly rent of three hundred pounds of lawful money of England issuing out of all the lands of the said Sir Henry Hobarte in the Countye of Norfolk to have to the said Miles Hobarte after the solemnization of the said marriage during the joint lives of the said Sir Henry Hobarte, the said Miles Hobarte and the said Dame Frances Bedingfeild, payable at the feast of S. Michaell the Archangell and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin yearly by equal portions, with claus of distress as by the said Indenture more fully may apear. Know ye now nevertheless in consideration that my said father reaps no manner of benefit from my said marriage nor by any thinge that she the said lady bringes, and yet on his part hath given to me and her and or children great and large portions and preferments in land I, the said Miles Hobarte, do by these presents freely releas to the said Sir Henry Hobart, my father, one hundred pound by the year part of the said rent of three hundred pound by the year, contenting myself with the other two hundred pound by the year payable by equal portions at the feastes and with the like claus of distress for that onely as aforesaid, and by these presents do covenant with the said Sir Henrye Hobarte to give him any father discharge of the said one hundred pounds by the year that he shall at any time require according to the true intent of these presents. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal this fourth of Aprill in the year of our sovereign lord James, by the grace of God, King of England, France and Ireland, the one and twentieth, and of Scotland the six and fiftithe.

MILES HOBARTE.

HAMON LE STRANGE to SIR HENRY HOBART.

1625, June 28.—Ho^{ble}. The distraction of my last and short abode att London caused me to forgett a motion which I shall

now recommend to your Lordship's acceptance. I understand that your Lordship hath the sole royaltie from the King touching swans and swanneries in Norf., and am desirous to have a particular mark for my river and waters att Gressenhall, and else where in this countye. There is a marke proper to Hastings formerly lords of Gressenhall and Elsing, which is now used by Sir Anthony Browne to whom I am willing to relinquish the same, and would have a distinct marke peculiar to my name and family, and to that end I crave that your Lordship will please to afford me that favour and as speedy a grant or direction for disposing thereof as conveniently may be. I hear also that sundry times stray swans are taken up betwixt Linn and me and some aieries lately erected there by meane persons. If your Lordship have not granted your power there I would desire also that additament from you.

Lastly, to conclude against my selfe, I return your Lordship the due recognition of your honourable affections to have esteemed me worthy of the love and labours you have formerly bestowed to have added me to the number of your deputy lieutenants in Norff. I doe so well assure my selfe the steadiness of your dispose (and am so much told it by those that knowe as little of my deserts) as I now growe in some feare of your favour and therefore doe as seriously and humbly importune that you will be aquiescent from any further motion to my Lord of Arundel for me; for if I might boast of or finde a grace in disgraces the last disfavour hath rather added then taken from me, howsoever the weakness of my body, obscurity of my situascon, and the great and contented fruition of my selfe att the plaine labours of the plough (to which I have putt my hand and will not pull backe) make me say with Jacob I have enough. I beseech you will be pleased to forgett what you have formerly levelled att that mark (though I must not) and suffer me to have rest in this banishment which, being restored, I cannot. Pardon my plaineness the best badge of a true hart and that the best heaven upon earth, and be pleased still to retayne in your honourable embraces,

Your ever faithfull nephew to serve you,

HAMON LE STRANGE.

SIR JOHN PEYTON to SIR JOHN HOBART.

1629, 29 July.— Not doubting of your coming [to] towne by my Lord of Bullingbrooke I doe expecte to see you heare, and if my daughter Hobert and you come together I beseech you to persuade her to come with you.

Your grandfather in all faithfull love and affection,

JOHN PEYTON.

1632. DISPENSATION to Sir John Hobart to eat flesh during Lent

Sealed by George [Abbot], Archbishop of Canterbury.

Confirmation of the above by royal letters patent, dated 29 Feb., 1632.

1634, Jan. 31.—Letters of administration to the goods of Edward Hobarte who died beyond seas, a bachelor, granted to Sir John Hobart, Knt. and Bt., brother.

SIR ROBERT BELL to SIR JOHN HOBART [on the Fen Drainage].

1634, Nov. 16.—I received this morning a letter from you butt it bears no date, but of your affection which I shall study to continue. I shall in answer to itt and in satisffaction of your desires make a short relation of all business wh. concern us both jointly and severally, wherein itt shall appear to all the world that we are bothe the same wee ever intended. First my Lord of Bedford and I are perfectly (by the favour of my noble Lord St. John) made up and reconciled on Friday last, and I shall have my part in Whittlesy presently without scruple or difference. The business concerning your assurance will be made fitt and to your contentment, but cannot be finished without your companie as N. Earle gives to understand. How this sutes with your approbation or my Ladyes I dare scarce enquire, I hope itt the last trouble you shall undergoe by any argument of mine and you shall need to stay out above two days at ye most. Deeping ffenn is as fit for judgment as any land in England being all at this time three foot under soile, butt Sir Thomas Halton doeth play ye () with us and if he be not more conformable will have cause to repent itt, for we will have it adjudged in despite of him. There is a sluice overthrown at Boston but no disparagement to the land nor disadvantage to the woork, but Sir Anthony Browne his private loss, you shall hear your part instantly sett out and be confident it will be exceeding beneficall.

[1636-1638.]—"Acquittances for 500*l.* towards the Repairing of the decayes and ruines of the Cathedrall Church of St. Paul in London, and the beautifying thereof according to the true intent and meaning of His Majesties Commission by Letters Patents granted for that purpose under the Greate Seale bearing date the 10th day of Aprill in the 7th yeare of H. M. reigne."

SIR ROBERT BELL to SIR JOHN HOBART.

1637, May 26.—Noble Sir. Questionless my sinns are greater then other menns and your exceptions against mee greater too or else I could not have failed an answer from you (having sent you divers letters) of your intention in my Lord of Bedford's business, 'tis true, I have had it suggested unto mee that you have long resolved to desert it, but I am free from jealousies myself and do beleve if you had ment so, you would have declared yourself and not have protracted me into so great a strait. The business is of greater consequence then ever, in respect that the King's 12,000 acres are sett out in Whittlesey and thereabouts, by which occasion there are such woorks begun and this summer to be finisht for the improving and securing that quarter as will render it of a farr greater value than former expectation made it. Unless you please to conclude it the next tearme (my Lord of

Bedford being fully prepared every way) I have no further hope unless you signifie your pleasure so that I may make triall time enough to satisfie my Lord if any other will befriend mee.

SIR ROBERT BELL to SIR JOHN HOBART.

1638, August 14.—I presume ere this you are acquainted with ye law of sale made at Huntington where we had as much (by Counsell) alledged for us as could be said and that which neither ye Attorney or Sollicitor could answer at all or in parte, but by a new trick in law, or in their instructions (I know not which) called ' Sic Volo ' They condemn^d our taxe, our law, our proceedings, and in consideration of the improvement wee had made and ye expense we had been at (sufficient evidence to intitlye ye King) they have given His Majestie both every foot of my Lord of Exiter's and our land that it may be made winter ground within 10 yeares, and whether we shall have relief in it or noe they must inform you that understand it more than I, but the best is most of us are better able to endure this then hanging though with some (of which I must be one) 'tis but an even lay. Now disadvantages come seldome singly, especially to those that cannot master them, of which (from your hand) some fall fresh on mee.

Part of Bardolf will lye upon my hands that am not furnisht how to stock itt, for there is 2 or 300 acres (being all lett from year to year) thus hangs upon hand till almost this season for two reasons, first because it is the last ground that is mowne in the countrie, secondly because the tenants pay one half year's rent at entry, and I might say thirdly because the later they defer it the better penny worth (like crafty merchants) they expect.

1638, Aug. 16.—Probate of will of HENRY HOBART of South Pickenham.

Mentions brothers of testator, John, Miles, Nathaniel and James.

SIR ROBERT BELL to SIR JOHN HOBART.

1639, May 10.—If this Scotch rebellion (which tyes up all men's purses) be turned (as there is great hope) into conformetie there will be open and free mart again and every man will trade.

SIR THOMAS WILBRAHAM, THOMAS LEGH, PETER EGERTON to SIR EDWARD MOSELEY and DAME MARY his wife.

1639, April 16.—Agreement as to terms of marriage settlement.

SIR J. HOBART and SIR JOHN HELE of Wembury, Devon.

1640, Mar. 10.—Articles of agreement on marriage of Dorothy Hobart, daughter of Sir John.

Letter of JOHN COKE announcing his Shrievalty of Norfolk.

1643, March 15.—Whereas it hath pleased his Majestie and the Parliament to make mee Sheriffe of the Countye so that by vertue thereof I am to nominate Bayliffs of the severall hundreds of the said Countie and knowinge that it is the desire of all good men that the said Bayliffes office may be put into the hands of such as are able and honest, and not doubtinge of your readinesse to further so good a worke and of your assistance herein, my desire to you is that you would forthwith consult and advise with the freeholders of your hundred for the findinge out of such a one in your hundred who may bee everye [way] fitt and likewise willinge to undertake dureinge my time the executon of the said office of Bayliffe in your hundred, and that with all speed, you would send unto mee the partie so nominated to the howse of John Blackett in Norwich at or before the four and twentieth of this instant March with sufficient sureties for the passinge of his Accompt. And so I bid you heartilie farewell and rest

Your assured,

JOHN COKE.

Norwich.

Petition from the prisoners in AYLSHAM Duchy Gaol.

1644, April 15. Norfolk.—To the Right Wp^l the Standing Committee at Norwich and to the Justices of ye Peace for the County of Norfolk.

We at this present, Prissoners in the Duchie Gayle in Aylsham, whose hands are hereunto subscribed being much oppressed and disterbed with Thomas Turner, a Prissoner in execution at the sute of Richard Bell for six pounds, who to our knowledge wants no Meate or Drink but is better relieved then he deserves by Roger Moris keeper of the said Gayle albeit he hath no moneys nor other meanes to pay for the same by the consent and with the sute of the said Richard Doe most humbly beseech your wp^l powers for removing him from us to the Castle of Norwich, he being a very profane ill-mouthed and ungodly person and very dangerous, insomuch as he fileth his Irons put on him for his most vilde and notorious accons in breaking open doores and locks and most absurdly abuseing us and such other persons as come to any of us. And also in threatening to pull doune and lay waste or burne downe the prison house where we are, for that he affirmeth there is neither God nor divell, heaven nor hell.

(S^d) Richard Howes, clerke.

Willm. Barker.

John Spratt.

William Harmer.

Robert Jeckes.

John Cony.

Signum
Rogeri Moris.

1645, April 3 and 7, and May 10.—RECEIPTS FOR PARLIAMENT PAY.

LADY FRANCES HOBARTE to SIR JOHN HOBART.

1649, Ap. 7.—Conveyance of Langley Manor.

MEMORIAL on behalf of M. RANSOME.

1653, Jan. 10. Felbrigge.—“To the Right Worshippfull Sir John Hobart, Knight and Baront. at his Blicklinge these present:”

Sir,—The schoole of Windham being voyd and M. Ransome that was expelled his Benefices for a very small occasion and upon very slender prooffe and being detained of his fift part for his wife and children, is now a sutour for the schoole of Windham, beinge void, for which employment he is and will be very fitt, being a man very able that way and one that carryes himselfe very inoffensively towards the present government and all men; his humble suit is, which I desire to recommend unto you, that you would be pleas'd to grant him your letter to Mr. Dey, to enterteyne a good opinion of him, as all the best of the Towne and others have, wherein you shall doe a worke of mercy and charitie at all times to be acknowledged by him in his prayers, and by me and my wife.

Your humble and faithful servant,

THO. WINDHAM.

1654, Jan. 25. Probate of the will of Phillippa Hobart, granted in the name of Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector.

HOUSE ACCOUNTS.

1655, 21 Feb. to 3 Dec., 1656, 27 Dec. to 13 March. Book of Daily expenses at Blickling Hall. Kitchen, &c.

1656, July 3.—Marriage Certificate. Sir John Hobart and Mary Hamond.

BLICKLING HOUSE ACCOUNTS.

Servants' wages paid for the quarter ended the 29th of September, 1655.

	£	s.	d.
Edmund Wise, Steward	7	10	0
Mr. Edward Legard	2	0	0
John Haynes -	3	0	0
John Hogan	2	10	0
John Capon	2	0	0
Chris fferrys, Cooke	2	10	0
Peter Browne	1	10	0
Robert Thompson, Gardiner	1	10	0
Symon Browne, Groome	1	5	0
Charles Cove, Groome	1	2	6
John Webster	1	5	0
Bichard ffooteman	1	15	0

Peter ffarthing	-	1	10	0
Henry Claybourne, Cater		1	0	0
Wm. Capon, Butler's boy		0	12	6
Michaell Steward, Cookes boy		0	12	6
Robert Hunt, Bayliff		1	10	0
W. Taylor, a Husbandman	-	1	5	0
John Flatman, a husbandman		1	5	0
Richard Curtys, a husbandman		1	0	0
Henry ploughman, a husbandman		1	0	0
John Hobart, ffarmers boy		0	15	0
Blith Sutton		0	12	6
Sicilya West		0	12	6
Suzan Heydon		0	15	0
Mary Heydon		0	10	0
Alice Bynks		0	12	6
		<hr/>		
		41	10	0

Petition of THOMAS PARMENTER.

[1656.]—To the Right Wpp^u the Committee for the County of Norff.

The humble petition of Thomas Parmenter sheweth your petitioner, having an equitable right to a house and about two and thirty acres of land in Witton, did about three weekes before Christmas last enter the possession thereof having no stock to employ the said land, since which tyme your Petitioner by his freinds hath sowne some of the said land and is charged or speedily to be charged with monthly pay to the Parliament and advaunce money to the Scotts Three pounds five shillings. And your petitioner, being poore by reason of many former suits unjustly prosecuted against him, hath neither Neat cattell, horse cattell, swine, sheepe, corn, money, nor credit to borrow money. And thro a widow Gostling challenging her thirds out of that land and her sonn Thomas Gostling three or four acres of it for copyhold and one Richard Burr, who maryed the petitioner's daughter agains his will, challenging all the said land, your petitioner can get no task cattell to pasture by means whereof he is not able to pay the said charge taxed upon him for the said land.

In respect whereof and for that my Lord of Manchester by his warrant, dated about the 25th of November, as the Petitioner remembreth did appoynt two Shillings in the pound to any that could discover any delinquent's goods, since which tyme your petitioner did discover so much money and goods as there hath been £59 already paid to the Parliament's use thereupon, and a great deale more is to be paid upon the sale of goods already so taken. And your Petitioner having received nothing doth humbly pray all taxes charged upon him for the Parliament and Scots advaunce may be suspended untill such tyme as he shall have satisffaction according to his Lopp^s order and the warrant thereupon. And your petitioner shall ever pray for your worshipp's prosperous successe in all yor affayres.

LADY FRANCES HOBART TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

1659.—I pray pardon this trouble which is occasioned by my feare of my horses being taken now upon my sudden journey to my oune house at Chaplefield in Norw^{ch} which I intend, God permitting, to begin the 8th August, this day their haveing bin one of my horses taken by Capt. Frier's command and a note taken of the rest, but my horse civilie returned upon my promise to get somewhat from the Councell of State for my keeping them, and now, Sir, I desire to give you a just account of mine, 2 bay sound horses, 2 bay geldings, all standing in my sister of Exeters stalls, a black gelding and a bay in Gibbes stalls in Salisbury lane and a gray nag and a sorrell now at grase, these, Sir, are the horses, I begg the favour to keepe without any further trouble either to myself or my friends amongst which I beseche you give me leav to rank you.

Sir, my request to you is that you would get me a protection for these horses.

Endorsement on the letter:—

Wee desire you to forbear meddling with the horses mentioned in this letter and belonging to the within mentioned Lady Fran : Hobart.

Signed Lambert.

Whytehall, fryday,
'59, July 30.

Richard Salwey.

1660, Oct.—Receipt for £10 for a quarter's rent of Sir J. Hobart's house in Petty France, Westminster.

1661.—Fees for burial of a child of Sir John Hobart at Covent Garden.

1680, 2 Dec.—Appointment of Sir H. HOBART Steward of Duchy of Lancaster.

1680—[1], 25 Jan.—Received then by the hands of Jo. Brewster for a horse for Hen. Howard to ride on to London, as an assistant to con: Verdon up thither upon his being taken upon a warrant from the House of Commons.

John JH Holdinge,
his marke.

ESTREAT of the ASSESSMENT for SUBSIDIES, in the
HUNDRED OF EYNESFORD, 1663.

The writing and estreate of all and every the sume and sumes of money by vertue of an Act of the Parliament now prorogued lately made for granting fower intyre Subsidys To his Ma^{tie} by the Temporality assessed charged and taxed in the said hundred of Eynisford, in the sayd County of Norff, for and towards the pay^t of the first two of the said fower subsidys, also of the names and surnames of all and evry the person and persons upon whome the said sume and sumes of

money are respectively so assessed, charged and taxed and also the yeerly or other best value or values or other qualifications for which or by reason whereof every of them were so assessed, charged and taxed this 28th day of Sept., anno Domini, 1663, by us whose seales and signes manuall are hereunto sett being amongst others named Com^r. for the sayd County in and by the said Act or by virtue thereof assigned unto the Lymitt in the sayd County whereof the sayd hundred is part by and with the assent of Edward Bulwer, Esquire, the High Collector of the sayd Lymitt delivered unto

LANDS.

Alderford.

Thomas Hall, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Nicholas Chapman, gen	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Richard Kett and others as Guardians of Sarah hankes	} xx ^s	viii ^s
Suma hujus ville		ii ^{li}

Baudswell.

LANDS.

Richard Chambers, gen.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Eglinton, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Leman	l ^s	xx ^s
Robert Bucke	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Will ^m Wells	xxx ^s	xii ^s
John Abbott	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Cottis	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Philippes	xx ^s	viii ^s
Ralph ffunnell, gntn. for the heyres of John Hare, sen. dec.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth Castleton, widow	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Grange	xx ^s	viii ^s
James Muddyshift	xx ^s	viii ^s
Summa hujus ville	vi ^{li}	viii ^s

Brandeston.

LANDS.

Robert Kinge, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Fuller	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Timothy Stotton, gen.	(sic) iii ^s	xxiii ^s

GOODS.

John Jempson	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville	iii ^{li}	xii ^s

Bylaugh.

LANDS.

Henry Beddingfield, esq.	xii ^{li}	iiii ^{li} xvi ^s
Mrs. Frances Paston, widdow	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Bendish, gen.	iiii ^{li}	xxxii
Henry Hay, gen.	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s

Thomas Raymer	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Westmor	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

John Porter	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville	x ^{li}	

Billingford.

LANDS.

Will ^m Boddy	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Richard Springall	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Hase	xx ^s	viii ^s
Anthony Cooke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Summa hujus ville	ii ^{li}	viii ^s

Bintrye.

LANDS

John Hinks	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Christopher Andrews	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Andrew Poynter	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Browne	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Cubitt	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Will ^m Lynn, gen.	iiii ^{li}	xxi ^s iiii ^d
Summa hujus ville	iiii ^{li} v ^s	iiii ^d

Elsing.

LANDS.

Thomas Browne, esq.	v ^{li}	xl ^s
John Robinson, cler.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Hewitt	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Drapitt	xx ^s	viii ^s
Bridget Copland, widow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Anne Southgate, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth Beacon, as guardian to her daughter	xx ^s	viii ^s
Summa hujus ville	viii ^l	viii ^s

Foulsham.

LANDS.

William Money, gen.	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Will. Keeling, gen.	iii ^{li}	xxiv ^s
Rob. Dey, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Phillup Skippon, esq., ultra mare		
W ^m Parlett his farmer and bayliff	vi ^{li}	ii ^{li} viii ^s
Will. Atthill	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Will. Parlett	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Wild	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Ives	xx ^s	viii ^s
Katherin Altcocke, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Seth Chapman	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
James Burton	xx ^s	viii ^s

Will. Nicholls	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Richard Nicholls	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Sparrow, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Chapman	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Chapman, jun.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Chapman, sen.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Rob ^t Chapman, Butcher	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edward Wild	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Martha Alcocke, widdow	v ^{li}	xxvi ^s viii ^d
Rob ^t Chapman, draper	ix ^{li}	ii ^{li} viii ^s
Symon Butler	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Summa hujus ville xx^{li} ii^s viii^d

ffoxley

LANDS

Anthony Howlett	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Richard Walker	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Porter	xx ^s	viii ^s
Anne Burton, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Copeman of Barton	xl ^s	xvi ^s

GOODS.

ffrancis Porter	v ^{li}	xxvi ^s viii ^d
Thomas Porter	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Summa hujus ville v^{li} xiiii^s viii^d

Geyst.

LANDS.

Henry Mynn, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Rice Wickes	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Reymer	xx ^s	viii ^s
W ^m Reymer	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edward Astly	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Christopher Mynn, gen.	iii ^l	xvi ^s
John Dunningham <i>alias</i> De Pree	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Summa hujus ville iii^{li} viii^s

Geistwicke.

LANDS.

Edward Bulwer, esq.	xxiiii ^{li}	v ^{li} xii ^s
Will. Bulwer, jure uxor.	v ^{li}	ii ^{li}
John Jermie	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Joseph Symonds, gen.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Jsaacke Asshly	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Roger Bulwer, gen.	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
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Summa hujus ville x^{li} xvi^s

Hackford.

LANDS.

Augustin Messenger	vi ^{li}	ii ^{li} viii ^s
Elizabeth Coxfer, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Munsey	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Dewing	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Will ^m Bayfeild	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Richard Chamberlayne, esq.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Breese	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Will ^m Parke	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Thomas Norton	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville	viii ^{li} viii ^s	

Heverland.

LANDS.

Clement Hyrne, esq.	vi ^{li}	ii ^{li} viii ^s
M ^{rs} Anne Hyrne, widdow	iii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
John Jeckes	xx ^s	viii ^s
Summa hujus ville	iii ^{li} iii ^s	

Hyndolveston.

LANDS.

Samuel Lynn	xl ^s	xvi ^s
And as guardian for John Lynn	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Daniell Brown	xx ^{li}	viii ^s
James Claybourne	xx ^s	viii ^s
Margaret Shinkwyn, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Beddingfeild, gen.	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Will ^m Lynn	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Ryce Ollye	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Daniell, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s

GOODS.

Thomas Johnson	iii ^{li}	xxi ^s iii ^d
Thomas Hallman	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Edmond Sconce	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Joseph Arlston	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville	ix ^{li} xvii ^s iii ^d	

Lyngge.

LANDS

Elizabeth Locke, widdow	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas King, sen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Abell	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Stoughton	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Kinge, jun.	xx ^s	viii ^s
M ^{rs} Becke, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will. Couldwell, cler.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Summa hujus ville	iii ^{li} xii ^s	

Morton.

GOODS.

Hugh Murrell	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville	xvi ^s	

Reepham cum Cardeston.

LANDS

John Dennis	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Edmond Skilling	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will. Dacke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Mary Dacke, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Hartston	xx ^s	viii ^s
Ralph Outlaw, clk. of Necton	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville	iii ^{li} iii ^s	

Ringland.

LANDS.

Francis Heyward, gen.	vii ^{li}	ii ^{li} xvi ^s
Thomas Kett, gen.	v ^{li}	ii ^{li}
Barnard Laverocke, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Parfitt	xx ^s	viii ^s
Summa hujus ville	vi ^{li}	

Sall.

LANDS.

James Fountayne, esq.	vi ^{li}	ii ^{li} viii ^s
Nathaniel Brett	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Barbour	xx ^s	viii ^s
Rob. Dey	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Marker, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Will ^m Stewart	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Margatson	xx ^s	viii ^s
Summa hujus ville	v ^l xii ^s	

Sparham.

LANDS.

Geoffrey Fuller	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth Batch, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Sedly, gen. of Backton	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Francis hamond	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Godfrey Ridgwell	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Robert Ivory	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville	iii ^{li} xii ^s	

Swannington

LANDS.

Will. Jealons	xl ^s	xvi ^s
The same William as guardian to the children of John Allen, deceased	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Moy	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Hamond Thurston of Drayton	xx ^s	viii ^s

Will ^m Bladwell, esq.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
John Pikarell, gen.	vi ^{li}	ii ^{li} viii ^s
Summa hujus ville vi ^{li} viii ^s		

Thimblethorp.

LANDS.

Edward Cooper	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Anthony Brett	xx ^s	viii ^s
Nicholas Riches	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Mowting of Norw ^{ch} . gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Copeman of G ^t Yarmouth	xx ^s	viii ^s
Summa hujus ville iii ^{li} iii ^s		

Thurning.

LANDS.

Peter Elwyn, sen., gen.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Peter Elwyn, jun., gen.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Thomas Elwin, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s

GOODS.

Christopher Pay	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville iii ^{li}		

Twyford.

LANDS.

Will ^m Raylye, gen.	iiii ^{li}	xxxii
James Ward, gen.	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
John Harnye	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Henry Lynne	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville iii ^{li} viii ^s		

Weston.

LANDS.

Mr ^s Margaret Rookwood, widd.	vi ^{li}	ii ^{li} viii ^s
Spencer Chapman	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Will ^m Bunn	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will ^m Hewitt, sen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Will. Hewitt, jun.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Andrews	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Mann	xx ^s	viii ^s
Th ^{os} Fryer	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth Bunn, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Thomas Rookwood, gen.	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Will ^m Lambe, g ^t .	v ^{li}	xxvi ^s viii ^d
Charles Bun	iiii ^{li}	xxi ^s iii ^d
Summa hujus ville x ^{li}		

Wood Dawling.

LANDS.

John Gallant, gen.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Charles Kempe, gen.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Edward Gay	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Roger Joyce	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Robert Sealth	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edward Messenger	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Richard Bell	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Sealth	xx ^s	viii ^s
M ^{rs} Dorothy Astely	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s

GOODS.

Rob. Johnson	iiii ^{li}	xxi ^s iiii ^d
Will. Bell	v ^{li}	xxvi ^s viii ^d
Zachariah ffuller	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
John Bell	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Robert Starling	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Thomas Swallow	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Summa hujus ville xiii^{li} iiii^s*Whitwell.*

LANDS.

Augustin Breese	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Cawsey	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Greene	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

William Barron	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
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Summa hujus ville ii^{li}*Wood Norton.*

LANDS.

Richard Springall	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Goodwyne, widd.	xx ^s	viii ^s

Summa hujus villa xxiiii^s*Witchingham Magna.*

LANDS.

Oliver Neve, esq ^{re}	xx ⁱ	viii ^{li}
George Boid	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Stephen Dewing	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Thomas Allen, gen.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Thomas Shackle, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Will ^m Pratt	xx ^s	viii ^s
Ralph Andrews	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas eu Styth	xx ^s	viii ^s

Summa hujus ville xxii^{li} viii^s (*sic*)

Witchingham Parva.

LANDS.

Ralph Outlaw, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Outlaw, gen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Summa hujus ville	xxxii ^s	
Summa totalis hujus hundredi	clxxviii ^{li}	

ESTREAT OF THE SUBSIDIES granted by the temporalty in the
HUNDRED OF NORTH ERPINGHAM, 1663.

Antingham liiii^s

Edmond De Gray, esq.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Robert Harmer	xx ^s	viii ^s
Andrew Rose	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Harmer, clerk	xxxv ^s	xiii ^s

Cromer iii^{li} viii^s

Sir George Windham, knight	vi ^{li}	xlvi ^s
Thomas Baxter, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Dennis Rounce	xx ^s	viii ^s

Gimingham vii^{li} xii^s

George Gryme, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
John Matchett, gent.	iii ^{li} x ^s	xxviii ^s
Thomas Gogle, gent.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Myles Skerrett	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Johnsons	xxx ^s	xii ^s
William Cubitt	xx ^s	viii ^s
Nicholas Tompson	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Mingay, gent.	iii ^{li} x ^s	xxviii ^s
Richard Gryme, gent.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Gryme, gent.	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Gunton xxiv^s

Anne Jermy, gentlew.	iii ^{li}	xxiv ^s
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Hanworth vi^{li} xiii^s

Robert Doughty, esq.	vi ^{li}	xlvi ^s
Frances Doughty, gentlew.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Hogan	xl ^v	xviii ^s
Robert Jell	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Elizabeth Miller, widd.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Robert Miller	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Love	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Knapton iii^{li} xii^s

John Wortes	xxxv ^s	xiii ^s
Thomas Everard, merchant	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Harmer, gent., and his mother	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edward Wiggett	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Thomas Gryme	xx ^s	viii ^s
Philup Alcocke, gent.	xxv ^s	x ^s
John Flight	xxx ^s	xii ^s

Mundesley xxiii^s

Edward Bradfield, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
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Northrepps xv^{li} x^s

Thomas Rugge, gent.	vi ^{li}	xlvi ⁱⁱⁱ ^s
Riches Browne, gent.	iiii ^{li} xv ^s	xxxviii ^s
Henry Playford, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Yallop, relict of Robert Yallop, gt. dec ^d	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
John Ellis, gent.	v ^{li}	xl ^s
Ward, relict of Alderman Ward, dec.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
John Spilman, gent.	v ^{li}	xl ^s
Thomas Outlacke, gent.	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Payne	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth Powell, widd.	xxxv ^s	xii ^s
Nicholas Carr, esq.	vi ^{li}	xlvi ⁱⁱⁱ ^s
John Emerson	xx ^s	viii ^s

Overstrand lvi^s

Reymer, relict of John Reymer, esq., dec.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Manninge, clerk, guardian to or for William Reymer, gent., an infant	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Symson Rice	xx ^s	viii ^s

Roughton v^{li} viii^s

James Tennant, gent.	vii ^{li} x ^s	iii ^{li}
John Reynolds, clerke	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Priest	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Hamond, gent.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Sudbury, clerk	xx ^s	viii ^s

Sidestrand iii^{li} vii^s

Thomas Deedes, gent.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Clerke, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Edmund Elden	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Giles Grey and his father	xx ^s	viii ^s
Roger Browne, gent.	xx ^s	viii ^s

Southreps ix^{li} viii^s

John Cubitt	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Robert Bateman	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Robert flight	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Robert Primrose	xx ^s	viii ^s
Sara Rice, widdow	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Bateman	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Richard Doughty	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Harmer	xx ^s	viii ^s
The heires of Joseph Snow, gent., deceased	v ^{li}	xl ^s
Robert Withers	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Crome	xxx ^s	xii ^s

Suffield vii^{li} viii^s

John Symonds, esq.	vi ^{li}	xlvi ⁱⁱⁱ ^s
Thomas Symonds, clerke	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Henry Symonds, gent.	iii ^{li} x ^s	xxviii ^s
John Porter, gent.	xxx ^s	xii ^s

John Starre	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Wentworth, esq., here and at Roughton	iii ^{li} x ^s	xxviii ^s
<i>Thorpe Market</i> viii ^{li} vi ^s		
Sir Thomas Rant, knight	xv ^s	vi ^{li}
William Langwade and Elizabeth Langwade	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Dame Cleyton	xxxv ^s	xiii ^s
Samuel Langwade	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Rant, gent.	v ^{li}	xl ^s
<i>Trimingham</i> xxxviii ^s		
John Gryme, sen.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
John Gryme, jun.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edmond Jewell	xxv ^s	x ^s
Robert Parr	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>Trunch</i> vii ^{li} xii ^s		
William Wortes, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Richard Wortes, gent.	l ^s	xx ^s
Robert Harmer	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert flight, g ^t	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Bates	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Mason	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Samuel House	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Daynes	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Gogle	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
<i>Alborough</i> iii ^{li} ii ^s		
Richard Hutchinson, esq.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Miller, gent.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Gay, gent.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Richard Whittacre	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Gunton	xxv ^s	x ^s
<i>Aylmerton</i> xlviii ^s		
Nicholas Monyman	xxx ^s	xii ^s
William Johnsons	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Edmond Pawle	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Abbes	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Pawle	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>Norwood Barningham</i> vi ^{li} viii ^s		
Sir John Palgrave, knight and baronet	x ^{li}	iiii ^{li}
Augustine Palgrave, esq.	vi ^{li}	xlvi ^s
<i>Towne Barningham</i> iii ^s iii ^s		
Sir Henry Beddingfield, k ^t . and b ^t . Henry Beddingfield, esq., John Bendish of Elsing, gent., feoffees or trustees of Clem ^t Paston, esq., deceased.	viii ^{li}	iii ^{li} iii ^s
Dorothy Paston, relict of Clem ^t Paston	vi ^{li}	xlvi ^s
Rob. Miller	xx ^s	viii ^s

Robert Billington, a non-comunicating Popish recusant of 21 years		xvi ^d
Richard Shaw, a non-com. Popish recusant of 21 years of age		xvi ^d
James Candler, a non-com. Popish recusant of xvi yeares of age		xvi ^d
<i>Bassingham</i> xx ^s		
Robert Swaine	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Jerome Blofield, gent.	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>East Beckham</i> iii ^{li} iii ^s		
Richard Chamberlayne, esq.	viii ^s	iii ^{li} iii ^s
<i>Beeston Regis</i> l ^s		
Anne Sherwood, gentlew.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Richard Greene, gent.	l ^s	xx ^s
Edmond Hooke	xxv ^s	x ^s
Elizabeth Lombe, widow	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>ffelbridge</i> x ^l xii ^s		
John Windham, esq.	xxv ^s	x ^s
Richard Pawle	xxx ^s	xii ^s
<i>Gresham</i> xxviii ^s		
Elizabeth Ulfe, widdow	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Henry Johnsons	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Marys	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>Matlaske</i> iii ^{li} ii ^s		
Phillip Pawle, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Robert Gay	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Miller	xxx ^s	xii ^s
John Miller	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Liggons	xxv ^s	x ^s
John Gay	xxx ^s	xii ^s
<i>Metton</i> xvi ^s		
Edward Crosby, gt.	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Carryer	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>Plumpstead</i> iii ^{li} viii ^s		
Edmond Bretiff, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Bartholomew Plumstead, gent.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Nicholas Wilson, gent.	iiii ^s	xxxii ^s
Anne Britiff, widd.	l ^s	xx ^s
<i>Runton</i> iii ^{li} i ^s iii ^d		
William Blofield, gent.	l ^s	xx ^s
Mary ffirmary, widd.	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Smith, clerke	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Woodrow	l ^s	xx ^s
Thomas Smith	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Elizabeth Suggate, widd.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Jacob, an infant alien dwelling with Roger flint, clerk		xvi ^s
<i>Sheringham</i> iii ^{li} vii ^s		
Robert ffeltham, gent.	l ^s	xx ^s

Richard Jennys	xxv ^s	x ^s
Samuel Jennys	xx ^s	viii ^s
George Grey	xxv ^s	x ^s
Robert Yaxley	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Cooke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Cooke, sen.	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>Sustead</i> xl ^s		
Leonard Blofield, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Thomas Cooke, gent.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
<i>Thurgarton</i> v ^{li} vi ^s		
John Pettus, gent.	iii ^{li} x ^s	xxviii ^s
Edmond Cooke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Christopher Blacke	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
William Spurrell	xxxv ^s	xiii ^s
Thomas Risbrough	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Druery	xx ^s	viii ^s
Samuell Soame	xx ^s	viii ^s
The grosse and totall summe of this hundred is cli ^{li} xv ^s iii ^d before any alteration, change or discharge had or made.		

HUNDRED OF SOUTH ERPINGHAM, 1663.

Aylesham.

LANDS.

James Allen	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robt. Burre	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Browne	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth Bradie	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Barker	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Francis Curtis, clerke	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Doughty, gent.	lxxx ^s	xxxii ^s
John Durrant	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Lawes	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Russells	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Some	xx ^s	viii ^s
Francis Curtis, as guardian to Thomas } Leaman	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Curtis	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Hall	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Ellis	xx ^s	viii ^s
Martha Smyth, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Anne Brytiffe, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Doughty	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Brady	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth Lubbocke, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Willson	xx ^s	viii ^s

Alby.

LANDS.

William Langwood	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robt. ffisher	xx ^s	viii ^s
Jeremy Blofeyld	lx ^s	xxiii ^s
William Parke	xx ^s	viii ^s

Baningham.

Humphery Carter	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Knivett	xx ^s	viii ^s
Phillip Graye	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Richard Clark	xx ^s	viii ^s
Jeremy Barnes	xx ^s	viii ^s
francis Wiggett	xx ^s	viii ^s

Barneingham pra.

Christopher Page	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Page	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Bacon	xx ^s	viii ^s
Christopher Graye	xx ^s	viii ^s

Baconsthorpe.

Robert Beare	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edmund Warnes	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edmund Britiffe	v ^{li}	xl ^s
Longfer, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Anne Vathecke	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

M ^{rs} Susan Longe	vi ^{li}	xxxii ^s
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Brampton.

Thomas Smyth	lx ^s	xxiii ^s
Richard Curson	xx ^s	viii ^s

Buxton.

Thomas Bulwer	lxxx ^s	xxxii ^s
John Hurton	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Edridg	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Watker	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

M ^{rs} Anne Gosnald	lx ^s	xii ^s
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Booton.

Catherine Malham	lxxx ^s	xxxii ^s
William Shillinge.	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Burrough.

Edmund Burre	xx ^s	viii ^s
Catherine Suffeild	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Parker	xx ^s	viii ^s
Rob ^r . Howse	xx ^s	viii ^s
James Fecor	xx ^s	viii ^s

West Beckham.

Richard Cooke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edmund Clucke	xx ^s	viii ^s
James Tower	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Clarke	xx ^s	viii ^s

Belough.

Edward Puttocke	xx ^s	viii ^s
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Blicklinge.

Sir John Hobart, knight and baronet com.	xxx ^{li}	xii ^{li}
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Thomas Sayers	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Smyth	xx ^s	viii ^s
Rob. Smyth	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Smyth	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Payne	xx ^s	viii ^s
James White	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>Coulteshall.</i>		
William Parkings	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Nathaniell Blaxter	lx ^s	xxiii ^s
Henry Whitwell	lx ^s	xxiii ^s
Richard Lubbock	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edmund Goslinge	xl ^s	xvi ^s
<i>Calthorpe.</i>		
Bartholomew Plumsteade	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Tubbinge	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Webster	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Alice Muntford, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>Colby.</i>		
William Smyth	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>Corpustie cum Irmingland</i>		
Dame Alice Smyth	x ^{li}	lxxx ^s
<i>Causton.</i>		
John Earle, esq., comr	v ^{li}	xl ^s
John Lombe	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Hamond	xx ^s	viii ^s
Mary Vawle, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edward Lombe	lxxx ^s	xxxii ^s
<i>Erpingham.</i>		
ffrancis hyrne	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Frederick Tylney	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Empson	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Warner	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Lubbocke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Wolsey	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Spirall	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will ^m Lubbocke	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Hawes	lx ^s	xxiii ^s
William Hewett	xx ^s	viii ^s
<i>Heydon.</i>		
Erasmus Earle, serjeant-at-law, com.	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Sympson	lx ^s	xxiii ^s
John Vrary	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Scottowe	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Richard Robins	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Robins	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard ffulcher	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Newman	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Heringham.

Thomas Scamler, gent.	lx ^s	xxiiii ^s
John Tolke	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Haylett	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Itteringham.

Richard Robins	xx ^s	viii ^s
Edmond Chapman	xx ^s	viii ^s

Ingvorth.

Briget Wolsey	xx ^s	viii ^s
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Houtebys m^a

Edward Warnes, cl.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Edward Denny	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Palmer	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Lammas cum Houteboys parva.

Thomas Sadler	lx ^s	xxiiii ^s
Robert Symth	xx ^s	viii ^s
Rob ^t Chapman	xx ^s	viii ^s
Humphery Prattant	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Allen, sen.	xx ^s	viii ^s

Marsham.

Edmund Gall	xx ^s	viii ^s
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Manington.

Sir John Potts, k ^t and barr., com.	xv ^{li}	vi ^{li}
John Potts, esq., com.	viii ^{li}	lxiii ^s

Oxnett.

Sir Robt. Paston, k ^t and barr. com.	xxx ^{li}	xii ^{li}
Joane Kilbie, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s

Oulton.

William Bell	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Edmund Bell	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Bell	xl ^s	xvi ^s
W ^m Lombe	xx ^s	viii ^s

Saxthorpe.

LANDS.

John Dey	lx ^s	xxiiii ^s
Mary Dey	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Page, esq.	lxxx ^s	xxxii ^s
John Vahan, cl.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Isadora Edmunds, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Mary Cooke, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Thomas Allen	lx ^s	xvi ^s
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Swanton.

William Coulsen, sen.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Beare	xx ^s	viii ^s
M ^{rs} Elizabeth Garrard	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will ^m Cooper	xx ^s	viii ^s

Skeyton.

Edmund Spendlowe	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Empson	xx ^s	viii ^s

Scottowe.

Thomas Picroft	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Spendlowe	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Lockton	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Warnes	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Durrant	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Martha Lubbocke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Brigett Edwards	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Stratton Straylesse.

M ^{rs} Anne Marsham	xx ^s	viii ^s
M ^r Henry Marsham	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Marsham	v ^{li}	xl ^s

Tuttington.

M ^{rs} Mary Rolfe	lxxx ^s	xxxii ^s
M ^r Barnard Utbard	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Twayet.

John Wolsey	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Bande	xx ^s	viii ^s

Wickmer.

John Ramsey, esq.	v ^{li}	xl ^s
Henry Miller, sen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Miller, jun.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Gunton	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Rob ^t Lubbocke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Amy Larwood	xx ^s	viii ^s
Martha Breese	xx ^s	viii ^s
Xpofer Parkine	xx ^s	viii ^s

Wolterton.

James Scamler, esq.	viii ^{li}	lxiiii ^s
Summe is 141 ^{li} 06 ^s 00 ^d		

In the Hundred of Holt, 1663.

Holt Hundred.

“ The Assessment for the said Hundred of the first two subsidies of the fower granted to his Matie in the fifteenth yeare of his highness’ raigne rated by William Symonds, Rob^t Hunt, Thomas Wright, Edmond Hobart, George Bulleyn, John Dey, and Henry Pane, gent., Assessors, and John Sorrell and Owen Palmer, gent., Cheife Constables there, the 19th day of Sept. in the year of our Lord God 1663.”

Holt.

LANDS.

Edmond Hobart, gent., Assessor	iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Sam Butler	xx ^s	viii ^s
Michaell Butler	xx ^s	viii ^s

John Millner	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will. Carre, sen.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will. Carre, jun.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Rob. Shepheard	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will. Leake	xx ^s	viii ^s
James Bulleyn, gent.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Phillip Feake	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Evered	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will ^m Spurrell	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Henry Ampleford, gent.	vi ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Stephen Allen	vi ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Thomas Donne	vi ^{li}	xxxii ^s
George Spurrell	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Bafeild cum Glandford.

LANDS.

Rob. Jermy, Esq.	x ^{li}	iiii ^{li}
Rob. Jermy, jun.	iii ^{li}	
Peter Critoft	xxx ^s	xii ^s
John Castor	xx ^s	viii ^s

Bathely.

LANDS.

George Bulleyn, gent., Assessor	ii ^{li}	xvi ^s
James Brame	xx ^s	viii ^s
Lucy Shaxton, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Poroditch	xx ^s	viii ^s
Bridget Bulleyn, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Thasher	xxx ^s	xii ^s

Gunthorpe.

LANDS.

Thomas Might, gent., Assessor	v ^{li}	xl ^s
John Sorrell, gent.	i ^{li}	viii ^s
John Houghton, gent.	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Judah Houghton, wid.	ii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Alice and Elizabeth Houghton	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Jeffery Might, gent.	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Thomas Davies	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Samuel Beckham	xx	viii ^s

Morston.

LANDS.

Th ^o . Shorting	xl ^s	xvi ^s
James Apoditch	xxx ^s	xii ^s

Blakeney.

LANDS.

Sam Bacon, gent.	viii ^{li}	iii ^{li} iii ^s
Th ^o . Youngman	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Th ^o . Russell	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Th ^{os} . Abraham	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Cressey	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Bassett	xx ^s	viii ^s

Wiveton.

	LANDS.	
Edmond Day, clerke	v ^{li}	xl ^s
John Loades	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Yaxley	xx ^s	viii ^s

Stodey.

	LANDS.	
Will. Symonds, gent., Assessor	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Rob. Critoft, gent.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Rob. Feazer	xx ^s	viii ^s
	GOODS.	
Elizabeth Hastings, wid.	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Martin hastings, gent.	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Hempstead.

Robert Hunt, gent., Assessor	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Owen Palmer, gent., chief constable	xx ^s	viii ^s
Nicholas Gotts	xx ^s	viii ^s
Martha Preist, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will ^m . Worts	xx ^s	viii ^s

Salthausen.

	LANDS.	
Hen ^y Parre, gent., Assessor	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Edward Dawney, Clerke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Standforth	xxx ^s	xii ^s
John Goulding	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Leverington	xx ^s	viii ^s

Kelling.

	LANDS.	
Anne Gilbert, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Hamond	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Balls	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth grene, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s

Wayborne.

	LANDS.	
Th ^o . Wotton, gent. Discharged	xx ^s	
uppon his oath		
John Munford	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Giles Preist	xx ^s	viii ^s
Sam Yaxley	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Cooke	xxx ^s	xii ^s

Langham.

LANDS.		
John Dey, gent., Assessor	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Will ^m Mann, sen.	v ^{li}	xl ^s
Will ^m Mann, jun.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Tho. Earle	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Locksmith	xxx ^s	xii ^s
George Boise	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Boise	xx ^s	viii ^s
Shorting, wid.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
GOODS.		
John Brighmer	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Hunworth.

LANDS.		
Phillip Britiffe	v ^{li}	xl ^s
Edmund Britiffe, sen., guardian to	} iii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Clement Britiffe		
Elizabeth Russell, wid.	viii ^{li}	iii ^{li} iii ^s
Rob ^t . Rogers	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will ^m . Newman	xx ^s	viii ^s

Briningham.

LANDS.		
Thomas Burlingham, gent.	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Rob. Spurrell	xx ^s	viii ^s

Bodham.

LANDS.		
Rob ^t Watson, Clerke	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Tho ^s Smith	v ^{li}	xl ^s
Th ^{os} Franck	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Edward Franckling	xx ^s	viii ^s
GOODS.		
Francis Roberts	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Swanton Novers.

LANDS.		
John Fincham	xx ^s	viii ^s

Melton Constable.

LANDS.		
Sir Jacob Astley, knight and baronett	xxx ^{li}	xii ^{li}

Burrow parva.

LANDS.		
Thomas Reynor, clerke	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Lee, gent.	xx ^s	viii ^s

Letheringsett.

	LANDS.	
Edward Worsley, clerke	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Richard ffitts, gent.	l ^s	xx ^s
John Dix	xx ^s	viii ^s
Rob ^t . Pearetree	xx ^s	viii ^s

Edgfeild.

	LANDS.	
James Marting, clerke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Martin, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Buxton, gent.	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Bartholomew grene	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Robert Martin	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Henry Wodrow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Rob. Castor	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Rob. Butler	xx ^s	viii ^s
Tilney, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Ann Hobart, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
	GOODS.	
Edward Denney, gent.	x ^{li}	ii ^{li} viii ^s iii ^d

Briston.

	LANDS.	
Rob ^t . Jeoffery	xx ^s	viii ^s
Katherine Taylor, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Cates, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Cates	xx ^s	viii ^s
Will. Jervis	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Will. Roper, discharged by oath		
Richard Roper	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John More	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Athow	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Garrett	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Browne	xx ^s	viii ^s

Thornage.

	LANDS.	
John Parkin	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Pyke	xx ^s	viii ^s
Tho. Girdleston	xx ^s	viii ^s
James Dix	xx ^s	viii ^s

Sharrington.

	LANDS.	
Thomas Hunt, esq ^{re}	viii ^{li}	iii ^{li} iii ^s
Will. Hunt, gent.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Nicholas Wild	xx ^s	viii ^s
Tho. Chapman	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Will. Alborough	xx ^s	viii ^s

Brinton.

	LANDS.	
Edmond Cooke	iiii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
John Cooke	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Rogers	xx ^s	viii ^s

Saxlingham.

	LANDS.	
John Harmer, cler.	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Rob. Chevely	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Th ^o . Keltham	xx ^s	viii ^s
Andrew Athill	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Browne	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth Cheavely, wid.	xx ^s	viii ^s

Cley.

Simon Britiffe, esq.	xii ^{li}	iiii ^{li} xvi ^s
Rob ^t . Burton	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Roger Uther, gent.	xxx ^{li}	xii ^s
Will. Crockley	iii ^{li}	xxiii ^s
Richard Flaxman	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Tho. Rayner	xx ^s	viii ^s

The names of persons having estates in the hundred of Holt living elsewhere.

Holt.

The heires of	Malling in	} xxx ^s	xii ^s
ferme of Michael Butler			
Widow Ringall in ferme of Stephen Allen		} xxx ^s	xii ^s
The Company of fishmongers in London in ferme of James Ward, esq.			
grene of Norwich in the ferme of Thomas Armestrong		} xx ^s	viii ^s

Bately.

Mr. Timothy ffelton in ferme of James Browne	} iii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Mr. Murray of Wells in the ferme of Steedman		

Gunthorpe.

John Gallant, gent., in ferme of Will ^m . Dix	} xx ^s	viii ^s

Morston.

fflaxman in the ferme of John Gouldsmith	} xxx ^s	xii ^s
John Stileman in ferme of W ^m . Armestead		

Blakeney.

The Executors of James Calthorpe, esq., in the ferme of Tho. Youngman, and others	} x ^{li}	iiii ^{li}
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Salthouse.

Christopher Mynns in ferme of Henry Parr, gen.	} l ^s	xx ^s
Will ^m . Watts, esq., in the ferme of diverse men	} xl ^s	xvi ^s
Augustine Palgrave, esq ^r in Salthouse and Kelling, Commissioner	}	

Kellene.

Sam Foster, cler., in the ferme of diverse men in Kelling and Waborne	} iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
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Waborne.

The Lord Cornewallis in the ferme of Mr. Wolton	} ix ^{li}	iii ^{li} xii ^s
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Bodham.

Mr. Luckner in the ferme of Francis Roberts	} iii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Mr. Watts in the ferme of Robert Joynes	} xl ^s	xvi ^s
Mr. Denny in ferme of Francis Chesteny	} xx ^s	viii ^s

Langham.

The Duke of Westmoreland in ferme of severall men in Langham and Morston	} xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Nettleton of Wells in ferme of John Locksmith	} lx ^s	xx ^s
John Harvy, esq., in the ferme of William Mann	} iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s

Hempstead.

Thomas Barney, esq., in the ferme of severall men in Hempstead and Bodham	} xii ^{li}	iiii ^{li} xvi ^s
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Edgfeild.

The Lady Jermin in the ferme of Mr. Tilney.	} iii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
Mr. Rowland in the ferme of severall men	} iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Captaine ffisher in the ferme of severall men of Edgfeild and Briston	} iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s

Briston.

Thomas Homes, gent., in the ferme of severall men	} iii ^{li}	xxxii ^s
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Mr. ffountaine in the ferme of Will. Boxer	} xl ^s	xvi ^s
Mr. Langwood in the ferme of John Browne	} xxx ^s	xii ^s
Mr. James Scambler in Briston, Edgfeild, and Hempsted	} iii ⁱⁱ	xxiiii ^s
Erasmus Earle, Serjeant-at-Law, Commissioner	}	
John Toke in ferme of Mr. Garrett, cler.	} xx ^s	viii ^s
George Purton in the ferme of severall men in Briston, Holt, and Hempstead	} xx ^s	viii ^s

Thornadge.

Sir Edmund Bacon, Commissioner

Sherington.

Mr. Warkhouse in Sherinton and Brinton in ferme of Thomas Copeman	} iii ^{li}	xxiiii ^s
Will. Baley in the ferme of severall men in Sherington and Brinton	} xl ^s	xvi ^s

Saxlingham.

Sir Thomas Guibon and Edmond de Gray, esq., Commissioners

Letheringsett.

James Ward, esq., in the ferme of Richard Richmon	} v ^{li}	xl ^s
Samuel Lin in the ferme of Robert Peartree	} xl ^s	xvi ^s

Summa Totalis 167^{li} 3^s 4^dESTREAT of ASSESSMENT to SUBSIDISE,
NORTH GREENHOE, 1663.

The Assessment made the One and twentieth day of Sept Anno Dom., 1663, upon the generall inhabitants in the said hundred for the two first of the foure intire subsidies granted to our most gracious soveraigne Lord King Charles the Second, by Act of Parliament made in the 15th yeare of His Majest^{tes} raigne of England &c. being rated and assessed by John Nabbs, Speller Tubbing, James Hawes, William Netleton, John Bond, William Framingham, gent., appoynted by the Commissioners hereof to assesse the same togeather with Robert Magnus and Philip Tubbing, cheef constables for the said hundred.

Binham.

LANDS.

Timothy Manne, sen.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Covy	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Elizabeth Money, widow of Richard Money	xl ^s	xvi ^s

Richard Cutting	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Olley	xx ^s	viii ^s
Martin Money, sen.	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Timothy Manne, jun.	lx ^s	xvi ^s
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Hinderingham.

LANDS.

Richard Godfrey, Esq., Commiss ^r	v ^{li}	ii ^{li}
John Nabbes, gent., sessor	xx ^s	viii ^s
James Ward, esq.	iiii ^{li}	i ^{li} xii ^s
William Maye, sen.	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
Peter Tubbing	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
Judith Tubbing, widd.	ii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Phillip Tubbing, sessor and chief constable	xxx ^s	xii ^s
Richard Bond	ii ^{li}	xvi ^s
William harnie	xx ^s	viii ^s
Stephen Lee	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Maye, jun.	xx ^s	viii ^s
George Stampe	xx ^s	viii ^s
Francis Browne	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Lovell	xx ^s	viii ^s
Lawrance Bond	xx ^s	viii ^s
James Sydall	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Page	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Dionis Bond	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
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Houghton.

LANDS.

Nich ^{as} ffenne	xx ^s	viii ^s
Nicholas Dagney	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Fenne	xx ^s	viii ^s
Charles flight	xx ^s	viii ^s

Holkham.

LANDS.

John Cooke, esq., Commissioner	c ^{li}	xl ^{li}
John Spooner	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Tymothey Large	xx ^s	viii ^s

Cockthorpe.

LANDS.

Thomas Swallowe, cler.	xx ^s	viii ^s
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GOODS.

Barbara Hill, widd.	iiii ^{li}	i ^{li} i ^s iii ^d
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feildawling.

	LANDS.	
John Stileman	xl ^s	xvi ^s
James Plane	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Betts	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Winne	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Olley	xx ^s	viii ^s
Mathew Loose	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Manne	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Barker	xx ^s	viii ^s
	GOODS.	
Christopher Ringer	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Stifkey.

	LANDS.	
Robert Framingham	v ^{li}	ii ^{li}
Speller Tubbing	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
John framingham	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Read	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Read	xx ^s	viii ^s
	GOODS.	
William Michell, cler.	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Welles juxta Mare.

	LANDS.	
Mongoe Moray, cle.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
William Netleton, sessor	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
Thomas Curson	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} xii ^s
John Leech	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Kinge	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Magnus, Sessor and Cheefe } Constable	xx ^s	viii ^s
Richard Sporne	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Breame	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Roger Monsuer	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
William Walleth	xx ^s	viii ^s
Stephen Knappe	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Frayry	xx ^s	viii ^s
Alice Tidd, widd.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas Reaer	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Lawson	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Wasselkey	xx ^s	viii ^s
Elizabeth Leech, widd.	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Sporle	xl ^s	xvi ^s
George Rideout	xx ^s	viii ^s
Clement Magnus	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Goldsmith	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Buckler	xx ^s	viii ^s
	GOODS.	
Thomas Boulth	v ^{li}	i ^{li} vi ^s viii ^d
Margaret Reeder	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Richard Driver	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} i ^s iii ^d

John Julyan	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Mathew Sporne	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
John Clerke, late of Feakenham	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
John Clerke, late of Hindringham	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Anne Barnard, wid.	iiii ^{li}	i ^{li} i ^s iii ^d
Mary Tidd, jun., widd.	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Nicholas Wagstaffe	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
James Wortley	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Alice Sporne, widd.	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Thomas Cullen	iiii ^{li}	i ^{li} i ^s iii ^d

Warham.

	LANDS.	
Ambrose Money, cler.	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
Jeremiah Purland, sen.	iiii ^{li}	i ^{li} xii ^s
Jeremiah Purland, jun.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Alice Purland, widd.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Greene	xx ^s	viii ^s
Jonas Scott	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
Gregory Brewster	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Harnie	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Manne	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Tubbing, cler.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Purland, esq.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert fisher, cler.	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
	GOODS.	
John Mantle	iiii ^{li}	i ^{li} i ^s iii ^d

Snoring Magna.

	LANDS.	
John Smith	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Thomas Webb, jun.	xx ^s	viii ^s
Anne Barnes, widd.	xx ^s	viii ^s
	GOODS.	
Robert Pyle	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Egmore.

	LANDS.	
Dorothy Bacon, widd.	iiii ^{li}	ii ^{li}

Walsingham Parva.

	LANDS.	
Edmund Smith, doctor of physick	xl ^s	xvi ^s
John Partington	xx ^s	viii ^s
William fairefax	iiii ^{li}	i ^{li} xii ^s
William Leverington	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Bond, sessor	l ^s	i ^{li}
William Framingham, sessor	l ^s	i ^{li}
John Johnes	xx ^s	viii ^s
William Seaton	xx ^s	viii ^s

Thomas Salter	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Willis	xx ^s	viii ^s
Anthoney Catts	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
Anne Sherwood, widdow	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Elizabeth Dey, widd.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Elizabeth Ford, widd.	ii ^{li} x ^s	i ^{li}
George heblethwaite	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Glennenney	xx ^s	viii ^s
Rob. Dix	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Francis Vincent	xx ^s	viii ^s
Thomas ffairefax	xx ^s	viii ^s

GOODS.

Mathew Blyfer	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s
Sara Partington, widd.	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Walsingham Magna.

LANDS.

Mathew Blyfer	v ^{li}	ii ^{li}
Roger Monsuer	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Henry Monsure	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Dennis Bucke	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
Judith Gibson, widd.	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Anne Allen, widd.	iii ^{li}	i ^{li} iii ^s
John Day	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Matles	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Johnes	xx ^s	viii ^s

Thursford.

LANDS.

S ^r Thomas Guybon, k ^{nt} . Com ^{sr} .	xvi ^{li}	vi ^{li} viii ^s
William Guybon, esq., Com ^{sr} .	iiii ^{li}	ii ^{li}
Humphrey Curson	xx ^s	viii ^s
John Comber	xx ^s	viii ^s
Robert Benington	xx ^s	viii ^s

Wyton.

LANDS.

Humphrey Bedingfeild, esq., Com ^r .	viii ^{li}	iii ^{li} iii ^s
Edmund Newgate	xl ^s	xvi ^s
henry Bedingfeild for goods	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

GOODS.

Richard Myles	v ^{li}	i ^{li} vi ^s viii ^d
Robert Olley	iii ^{li}	xvi ^s

Berney.

LANDS.

James Hawes, sessor	xl ^s	xvi ^s
Robert Hastings	xx ^s	viii ^s

James Lynne	xx ^s	viii ^s
Henry Anderson	xx ^s	viii ^s

POPISH RECUSANTS

Barbara Suger, sen.	i ^s iii ^d
Barbara Suger, jun.	i ^s iii ^d
John Sugar	i ^s iii ^d

The grosse and totals of this } hundred is -	163l. 11s. 00d.
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SIR JOHN HOBART to THOMAS SKEET.

1665, Jan. 31.—Lease of Langley Abbey.

1667-1670.—Copies of Testimonials to one Captain William Mayden, "Commander of several Fireships," formerly a midshipman in H.M. Ships *Royal Charles* and *London*, by Prince Rupert, Admiral Spragge, Lord Albemarle, and Lord Sandwich.

SIR J. HOBART to SIR JOHN FOUNTAINE, S.L.

1670, May 2.—Mortgage of Langley (monastery, site, &c.).

December 21, 1672.—Rec^d then of Sir John Hobart, Bart., by the handes of John Breuster for a Perriwig £7, for mending of a Wigge £1 10^s and for 2 pounds of haire powder; 5^s in all } £8 15s.

(S^d.) John Ringstead.

List of a Gentleman's Wardrobe,
[SIR HENRY HOBART] 1673.

A particular of things delivered into Mr. Eagles charge in Sept., 1673.

Imprimis a dark coloured druggat coat and breeches with a flowered silk wastcoate.

Item a buttond and loopd coate and breeches of druggatt with a silk pink^t wastcoate.

Item a coate and a pair of sleeves of black cloath with black trimming tagg^d and a black silk wastcoat.

Item a light coloured branched silk wastcoate which was worne with the camblet suite.

Item a coate and a paire of breeches of an Irish freese.

Item a coate and pair of breeches of a dear coloured clothe w^b a silke wastcoat of y^e same colour.

Item a coate and a pair of breeches of a darke coloured searge loynd with flowrd silke and a wastcoate suitable to the lynyng of y^e coate and a pair of silke stockins suitable.

Item a light coloured druggate coat and breeches with a flowr^d silk wastcoate, the breeches were alterd at London beinge formerly Pantelloons.

Item a shagge white silke wastcoat.

Item a black bumbazine coate and breeches with a black silk wastcoate.

Item 2 muffles.

Item a capp of turbant fashion.

Item black ribeands made up in fashion of Pantelloons, which was formerly worne with the grey druggate suite, wth two Remnants of flowered silk suitable to the wastcoat belonging to the s^d grey druggat suite.

2. *Item* a sky coloured twilight with 2 boxes, 2 brushes, a glass cup, and a pair of slippers all of tabby laced with gold and silver lace.

Item an ash coloured silke wastcoat pink^d.

Item a large cotton wastcoate.

Belts.

Imprimis a wast Belt of buffe stitch^d with gold and silver and buckles of silver guilt.

Item a shoulder belt of black Spanish leather with silver buckles.

Item a shoulder belt with a dark coloured silk frienge and a silver twist about it.

Item twoe shoulder belts with black frienge.

Item a shoulder belt of a cynamon colour cut and embroydered.

Item a black Spanish leather belt with gold frienge.

Item a wast belt stitch^d with silver and with silver buckles or clasps and belonging to the little sword.

Item a black Waste tabby belt stitched with black buckles.

Item a black cloath waste belt with black buckles.

Item a wast belt laced with a gold and silver lace and buckles of silver gilded.

Item a girdle or sash of silk and silver.

Item a buffe waste belt laid with a silver twist and ye buckles of silver.

Item a plaine Buffe wast belt with guilded buckles.

Item a black stitched tabby belt with buckles of silver.

3. Swordes.

Two rapiers with silver hilts.

Item a short walking rapier hatchd.

Item a scemytar hatcht with gold.

Item a walking sword with a damask^d hilt.

Item 3 pair of black stitch^d garters.

Item a pair of garters of black cloath.

Item 3 pairs of embroydred garters.

Item a pair of dark coloured Leather garters bound with gallowne.

Item a black Beaver hatt.

Item a coloured Beavour.

Item a black caster.

Item a coloured beaver with narrow verges.

Item a little black Cordiberk or riding hatt.

Item a longe Cordiberk or riding hatt.

Item a riding cap of black velvet.

Item a black mountere of velvet.

Stockings.

- Imprimis* 6 pair of cotton stirrup stockings.
Item tenne pair of pearle colour silk stockings.
Item six pair of old black silk stockings.
Item 3 pair of whole footed wollen stockings.
Item 2 pair of woolen stirrup stockings.
Item twoe pair of worstead stirrup stockings.
Item a pair of pink coloured silk stockings.
Item twoe pair of white worstead stockings with rigg^d topps.
Item a pair of black searge stockings.
Item 10 pair of old silk stockings.
Item a pair of grey worstead stockings with large topp.
Item twoe pair of cotton whole footed stockings.
Item a pair of thick gray with topp to ride in.

Buckles.

- Imprimis* twoe pair of diamond buckles.
Item one pair of gold buckles.
Item a pair of silver buckles, part of them gilded.
Item 4 other pair of silver buckles.
Item 3 pair of black buckles.
 Perukes seaven and a new morning wigge.

Bootes.

- Imprimis* one pair square toed bootes of Rendall's make.
Item a pair of Paul's make not worne.
Item a pair of old bootes w^b large topps, square toes and narrow heles.
Item 3 pair of other round toed bootes.
Item 2 paire more made by Paul in present weareing.

Shooes.

- New { *Imprimis* 6 pair of winter shoes.
 worne. { *Item* 6 pair of summer shooes.
Item 3 pair of goloshaes.
Item 3 pair of black shooes of shamah dress.
Item 2 pair of dear colour cloath shooes.
Item 7 paire of other shooes worne.
 A pair of leather buskins and gambadoes.

Wearing Lynnen.

- Shirtes now in weare 11.
Item 8 old shirtes.
Item 6 fine shirtes.
Item 6 wastcoates of single holland.
Item 3 wascoates of double holland.
Item 5 pair of drawers of single holland.
Item 5 pair of double drawers.
Item 3 pair of double holland sleves.
Item 2 pair of quilted sleeves.
Item twoe quilted breast cloaths.
Item 22 towells.

- Item 15* pair fine holland sleeves.
- Item 2* diaper brest cloathes.
- Item 3* quilted caps.
- Item 4* double holland capps.
- Item 7* single holland caps.
- Item 3* laced caps.
- Item 14* pair of socks.
- Item 8* handkerchefes.
- Item 6* plain crevatts.
- Item 12* pair of plain cuffs.
- Item* a long laced crevat.
- Item* twoe plain crevats tied up with twist.
- Item 4* long crevats.
- Item 4* muslyn crevats made up.
- Item 6* pair of little cuffes laced.
- Item* two pair of other little cuffes.
- Item* twoe point laces for ye forepart of a wastcoat or halfe shirte.
- Item 5* point crevats.
- Item 5* pair of point lace cuffes.
- Item 2* muslyn stocks besides stocks tied to the crevats.
- Item* twoe laced crevats.
- Item 5* pair of laced cuffes.

In the Cupress chest.

- Imprimis* a frieze coat lynd with searge.
- Item* a purple velvet coat.
- Item* a black cloath coate and breeches with a black silk wastcoate.
- Item* another black cloath coat and breeches with a blacke silk wastcoate.
- Item* a black cloath coat and vest of farendine with a pair of black cloath breeches.
- Item* a black cloath coate and a black silk wastcoate.
- Item* a black silk wastcoate lyned with white sasenet.
- Item* a Buff coate lyned with tabby.
- Item* a doublet of cloath of silver.
- Item* a pair of searge trousoes.
- Item* the body of a blacke farendine doublet with sleeves pin'd to it.
- Item* a parcel of black velvet being the loyning of a cloake.
- Item* a pair of knitt pantelloons of pearle coloured silke.
- Item* another pair of knitt pantelloons whip'd with riband of Philemot.
- Item* a pair of pantelloons whip^t with black ribeond.
- Item* twoe sweet bagges lined with gold lace.
- Item* two old morning Gownes.
- Item* a broad wast belt with silver frienge and silver buckles.
- Item* a waste belt belonging to the Buffe coate.
- Item* a shoulder belt w^h frienge of a pearle colour.
- Item* a black velvet shoulder belt.
- Item* a shoulder belt of white tabby and gilded buckles.

Item a grey frieze wast belt.
Item a narrow wast black belt with silver buckles.
Item a shoulder belt of black cloath.
Item a shoulder belt of black tabby.
Item a wast belt of black spanish Leather.
Item another shoulder belt of black cloath.
Item an old wastcoate of flowered silke.
Item one pair of riding gloves the inside fur'd.
Item one other pair of riding gloves.
Item a little girdle, blacke.
Item 3 pair of black shammy gloves.
Item a pair of other blacke Leather gloves.
Item a combrase laced of fillament colour.

Agreement for Purchase of Swans between SIR J. HOBART
 and JOHN SWAN, of Saxlingham, Norfolk.

1674, October 24.—That the said John Swan in consideration of the sum of tenne pounds of good money of England, five pounds part whereof the said John Swan doth hereby acknowledge to have received and had, hath and doth oblige himself his executors and administrators to deliver and cause to be delivered to the said Sir John Hobart or his assigns thirty and fower swans at Midsomer next or within 14 days following, upon the delivery whereof the said Sir John Hobart is to pay or cause to be paid to the said Jo. Swan or his assigns five pounds remaynder of the said tenne pounds. In witness whereof I have herewith set my hand the day and year above mentioned.

JOHN SWAN.

Witness : Thos. Seabourn.
 Jo. Brewster.

A note of what swanes I marked that was bouthe of
 John Swane.

Imprimis at Langley marse one swane.
Item bouthe there a land birde.
Item at Hasingham Littell dike one swane.
Item at Harsinghame greete dike one swane.
Item at the diveles house one swane.
Item at Strumshote fen one cocke and one signetè.
Item one swane more there.
Item at the Lower fene dike two swanes.
Item at Brindall house one swan.
Item at Sullingham fery one swane.
Item at Sullingham fene one cocke and three signetes.
Item at Possicke halle 2 swanes.
Item at Wickelingam one cocke and 3 signetes.
 Rob^t. Kemp's note of Mr. Swans of Saxlingham.
 Swans upped in the year '75.
Imprimis at Bintry Common one swane.
Item at Grente Mille one swane.
Item against Beelowe church one swane.
Item at Linge mille one hene and one signett.

Item at Prates mille one swane.

Item at Warden medowes twoe ould swanes.

Item above White mille three swanes.

Item at Coosye blackewater 2 swanes.

Item at three briges one swane.

Robert Kemp his accompt of the swanes
bought of Wynter.

MANIFESTO of the GENTLEMEN OF NORFOLK for the
REDUCTION of EXPENSES of HIGH SHERIFF.

1675, Jan. 12. Norff.—Wee whose names are hereunder written observing that notwithstanding a Statute made in the 14th yeare of the King for the preventing of the great and unnecessary charge of Sheriffs, yet such Persons as since that tyme have been Sheriffs in this County of Norff. have made great expenses contrary to the said Law which may be suposed to have proceeded from the apprehensions they might have had that those who should begin the reformation might be liable to censure as men more avaritious than those who preceded in the same office, soe that through want of good example the Law is contemned and broken. And notwithstanding divers Statutes made prohibiting of Sheriffs letting their Bailliwickes to farme, which Law not being duly observed have tended more to the prejudice and oppression of the Country, wherefor to prevent the said unnecessary charge of Sheriffs and oppression of the Country

It is agreed by all the Persons whose names are here subscribed, that noe one of the Persons who shall subscribe to these Articles shall have more then forty men servants with Liveries attending upon him at the tyme of Assizes, nor under the number of twenty like attendants. Which Liverymen that are to be provided by such gentlemen as are subscribed to these articles shall be part.

That when any one of the said Subscribers shall be made Sheriff of the said County the Livery shall be a plain grey woosted camblet edged and loyned through with blew searge and trimd with bell mettall buttons, a black hatt edged with blew with a blew woosted hat band, and a plain shoulder belt of buffe, and a black leather saddle edged with blew, and shall as often as any Subscribers shall be made Sheriffs of the said County bee as near and as much alike both in colour, stufs, and otherwise as can be bought and made.

And every Liveryman shall likewise bring with him a javelyn suitable.

And when any of the Subscribers shall be made Sheriffs of the said County every other of the subscribers shall provide one man habited in such a livery as aforesaid to attend such Sheriff at the Assizes for the said County and shall beare the charges both of such Liveryman and his horse during the Assizes.

.

That when any of the said Subscribers shall be Sheriff of the said County he shall at the Assizes for the said County and during the tyme of such Assizes dine at an ordinary and make any Invitation of any Person whatsoever nor keep any under-sheriff's table, which said ordinary shall not exceed fower shillings for meat, beer and ale, and all wine at that ordinary shall be paid for by those that call for it, and before it be used and spent, and the ordinary for the servants shall be eighteen pence and noe more.

That when any of the said Subscribers shall be made Sheriff of the said County every other of the said Subscribers in the first columnne shall for ye better attendance of His Majesty's Judges personally accompany such Sheriff to introduce the Judges at the winter Assizes for the said County, and those in the second column at the Summer Assizes, and every one of the said Subscribers during the said Assizes shall dine at the same table with such Sheriff and pay for his own ordinary and proper chardges.

And in case by reason of any urgent or extraordinary occasion any one of the said Subscribers shall be hindered from coming in Person to accompany the said Sheriff in such manner as beforementioned that then he shall send some other gentleman to represent him and accompany the said Sheriff as himself ought to have done, and to pay as himself should doe if he were Personally present.

That for making such attendance on the Sheriff the more equall to all the Subscribers it is agreed that those who attend at the Winter Assizes the first year shall attend the Somer Assizes the next yeare and soe vice versa.

That noe persons shall be admitted to subscribe after the date hereof during the space of sixe weekes next after, unless such persons as shall be alowed by Sir John Hobart, Sir John Holland, Sir Ro. Kemp, Will. Windham, Ro. Longe, Roger Potts, Esq., Sir Christopher Calthorp, Rob. Walpoole, Roger Spelman, Christofer Bedingfeld, and John Pell, Esqres. or any 3 of them under their hands. Neyther shall any person after the said six weekes be admitted to subscribe unless he or they shall be alowed of by ye greater number of Subscribers.

It is further agreed that the subscriptions shall be made in a Parchment roll and kept by the present and succeeding Sheriffs of this County.

That every respective Sheriff shall return the default of the severall Subscribers at the Assizes next following.

That the Subscribers shall hereby oblige themselves to take great care in the choice of their undersheriffs soe as they may be such persons as may not oppress the Country.

And that they shall not directly or indirectly take any profit, reward or price eyther by themselves or undersheriffs for the Ballywick of the severall hundreds of this County.

John Hobart.
John Holland.
Rob^t Kemp.
Philip Woodhouse.

Will^m Doyley, sen.
Will^m Doyley, jun.
Peter Glean.
Ch^r Calthorp.

James Johnson.	Christ. Crow.
Will ^m Rant.	Richer Browne.
Will ^m Windham.	W ^m Tubbing.
Rob. Wallpoole.	Edm ^d Pattrick.
Roger Spelman.	Rob ^t Longe.
Nich. Wilton.	Roger Potts.
Th ^o Barnes.	Rob ^t Wood.
ffra. Bickley.	Clement Herne.
Martyn Cobb.	W ^m Branthwayt.
Rich. Berney, jun.	John Pell.
Nich. Styleman.	Edmund Brytiffe.
Brampton Gourdon.	Gardner Hewet.
Ro. Suckling, jun.	Christofer Bedingfield.
John Berney.	Rob ^t Suckling, sen.
John Herne.	Will ^m Turner.
Clement Spelman.	Gascoigne Weld.

JOURNAL of the LIEUTENANCY of the COUNTY OF NORFOLK.

1676, May 19.—Resolution at a meeting of the Deputy-Lieutenants :—

Thatt colours for the severall Regiments be as follows :—

The Regiment of Horse	Blew
Sir Jacob Astley's Regiment of Foot	Blew
and the balls of distinction	White
Sir W ^m Doyley's Regiment of Foot	White
and the balls of distinction	Red
Sir Christopher Calthorpe's Regiment of Foot	Yellow
and the balls of distinction	Blew
Thomas Knyvett, Esq., his Regiment of Foot	Purple
and the balls of distinction	White

1676, July 11.—Mem. William Wyndham, a Deputy-Lieutenant for the County, did this day deliver in his certificate into the Court of SS for the peace for his having receyved the Sacrament according to the usage of the Church of England, and did take the oath of allegiance and supremacy as also the oath required by the Act for settling the Militia.

Ordered that in consequence of the great disservice done to His Majesty in the Militia of this county by admitting persons of small estates to be laid to the Horse by which means the number of the foot are very much diminished, that for the future no person having an estate under 200 pounds per annum shall be laid to the Horse but shall be charged to the Foot.

SOUTH ERPINGHAM HUNDRED.

1676, July 11.—A list of the hundred stores remaining in the Church porch in Aylsham, vizt. :—

Almost a barrel of powder.	
16 pickaxes.	5 wooden beetles.
24 mattocks.	4 hatchets.
23 spades.	1000 yards of match.
About 2 bushells of muskett shott.	

1677.—A LIST of DEPUTY LIEUTENANTS and MILITIA OFFICERS
for the COUNTY of NORFOLK.

Robert Lord Paston, Viscount Yarmouth,
Lord Lieutenant. :

Deputy-Lieutenants :—

William Paston.	}	Bts.	Sir Allen Appesley, K ^t .
Philipp Woodhouse.			Sir Neville Catteline.
Jacob Astley.			Sir W. Doyly, jun.
John Pettus.			William Cooke, Esq.
William Doyly, sen.			Thomas Knyvett, Esq.
William Adams.			Robert Walpole, Esq.
Thomas Garrard.			Robert Coke, Esq.
Edmund Bacon.			Philip Harberd, Esq.
Francis Bickley.			William Windham, Esq.
Christopher Calthorpe, Knight of the Bath.			Edward Ward, Esq. Robert Suckling, Esq. William De Grey, Esq.

The First Foot Regiment.

Soldiers.		Soldiers.	
Sir Jacob Astley, Collonell.		Jacob Preston, Esq., Capt.	
W. Tubbing, gent., Capt.- Lieut.		John Symonds, Esq., Lieut.	
Edward Astley, gent., En- signe.		Tho. Preston, gent., Ensigne.	
Edward Lee, gent., Quar- termaster.		Two Sergeants.	151
Three Sergeants.	149	John Harberd, Esq., Capt.	
Philip Harberd, Esq., Lt.- Coll.		Hamond Thurston, gent., Lieut.	
John Pollard, gent., Lieut.		John Starling, gent., En- signe.	
Rob ^t Nockold, gent., Ensigne.		Two Sergeants.	131
Three Sergeants.	112	Robert Doughty, Esq., Capt.	
Ed. De Grey, Esq., Major.		Sam Gilpin, gent., Lieut.	
W. Wortes, gent., Lieut.		Humphrey Carter, gent., Ensigne.	
Roger Wiggot, gent., En- signe.		Three Sergeants	144
Three Sergeants.	123		
Symon Brytif, Esq., Capt.			
Robert Chapman, gent., Lieut.			
Edward Benn, gent., En- signe.			
Three Sergeants.	157		

The Second Foot Regiment.

	Soldiers.		Soldiers.
Sir William Doyly, Collonell.	112	Anthony Freeston, Esq., Capt.	
John Harris, gent., Capt.-Lieutenant.		Henry Fenn, gent., Lieut.	
Roger Reynolds, gent., Ensigne.		Robert Game, gent., Ensigne.	
Robert London, gent., Quartermaster.		Two Sergeants.	121
Three Sergeants.		William Cooke, Esq., Capt.	
		Thomas Skeet, gent., Lieut.	
Robert Suckling, Esq., Lieut.-Collonell.		Robert Grymmer, gent., Ensigne.	
Daniel Newton, Gent., Lieut.		Three Sergeants.	081
Nicholas Sayer, gent., Ensigne.		Leonard Mapes, Esq., Capt.	
Three Sergeants.	084	Thomas Dengaine, gent., Lieut.	
Thomas Gawdy, Esq., Major.		John Marston, gent., Ensigne.	
John Freeman, gent., Lieut.		Three Sergeants.	124
Rob ^t Wrongrey, gent., Ensigne.		John Hyde, Esq., Captain.	
Two Sergeants.	107	Thomas Torey, Esq., Lieut.	
		Thomas Murrell, gent., Ensigne.	
		Three Sergeants.	113
		In all	745

The Third Foot Regiment.

	Soldiers.		Soldiers.
Sir Christopher Calthorp, Collonell.		Francis Bell, Esq., Capt.	
Matthew Manning, gent., Capt.-Lieut.		W. Fisher, gent., Lieut.	
Thomas Girling, gent., Ensigne.		Gregory Parlett, gent., Ensigne.	
Three Sergeants.	096	Three Sergeants.	148
Laurence H. Oxburgh, Lieut.-Collonell.		Arthur Boteler, Esq., Capt.	
Richard Trice, gent., Lieut.		Marten Cobb, Esq., Lieut.	
Geoffrey Colville, gent., Ensigne.		Francis Bagg, gent., Ensigne.	
Three Sergeants.	116	Two Sergeants.	081
Richard Godfrey, Esq., Major.		Thomas Hoogan, Esq., Capt.	
John Godfrey, gent., Lieut.		Nicholas Parham, gent., Lieut.	
James Hawe, jun., gent., Ensigne.		Robert Hamond, gent., Ensigne.	
Three Sergeants.	090	Three Sergeants.	128
		Edward Chamberlane, Esq., Capt.	
		W ^m Mason, gent., Lieut.	
		Edward Thorisby, gent., Ensigne.	
		Two Sergeants.	075
		In all	734

The Fourth Foot Regiment.

Soldiers.		Soldiers.	
Thomas Knyvett, Esq., Collonell.		W ^m Rant, Esq., Captain.	
Capt.-Lieutenant Browne.		Edward Denny, gent., Lieut.	
Robert Grey, gent., En- signe.		Samuell Greeneway, gent., Ensigne.	
Hen. Grey, gent., Quarter- master.		Two Sergeants.	084
Three Sergeants.	140	W ^m Copley, Esq., Capt.	
		John Gryme, gent., Lieut.	
Edward Woodhouse, Esq., Lieut.-Collonell.		John Wade, gent., Ensigne.	
Thomas Talbot, gent., Lieut.		Three Sergeants.	159
William Browne, gent., En- signe.		John Berney, Esq., Capt.	
Three Sergeants.	132	John Castle, gent., Lieut.	
		Clement Jermy, gent., En- signe.	
W ^m De Grey, Esq., Major.		Three Sergeants.	094
Humphrey Futter, Esq., Lieut.		John Knyvett, Esq., Captain.	
John Futter, gent., En- signe.		Richard Mason, gent., Lieut.	
Two Sergeants.	106	Thomas Prettyman, gent., Ensigne.	
		Three Sergeants.	152
		In all	867

The Regiment of Horse

Soldiers.		Soldiers.	
W ^m Paston, Esq., Collonell		Sir W. Doyly, jun., K ^t , Cap- tain.	
Thomas Weld, Esq., Capt.- Lieut.		W. Barker, Esq., Lieutenant.	
Cornett.		Francis Lane, Esq., Cornett.	
James Couldham, gent., Quartermaster.		Samuel Verdon, gent., Quar- termaster.	
	78		70
Sir Neville Catteline, K ^{nt} . Major.		Sir Thomas Garard, Bart., Capt.	
John Houghton, Esq., Lieut.		Robert Thorowgood, gent., Lieutenant.	
John Brereton, gent., Cor- nett.		Edward Colborne, gen., Cor- nett.	
Matthew Norgate, gent., Quartermaster.		John Parly, gent., Quarter- master.	
	59		58
Edward Ivard, Esq., Capt.		Francis Guybon, Esq., Cap- tain.	
Rob. Payne, Esq., Lieut.		Charles Perkins, Esq., Lieut.	
John Bringloe, jun., Cor- nett		Hamond Claxton, Esq., Cor- nett.	
Henry Harman, gent., Quartermaster.		Nathaniel Weld, gent., Quartermaster.	
	49		65
			379

SIR HENRY BEDINGFIELD to LORD TOWNSHEND.

1677, July 20. Beckhall.—Being told yesterday by diverse of my acquaintance that came from the Sessions at Norwich that I was there made the publick discourse of the towne, occasioned by manie false and strange reflections that were made upon twoe letters written to your Lordship, one from my cousen Chr. Bedingfield, who had no commission from me to write, the other from my selfe, which they say were both shewn by you, which being a thing not used by other persons of Honor, I cannot believe it to be true, and have therefore sent this Bearer my Son to know how farre yo^r Lordship will owne this matter, and having suffered soe much prejudice by my cousin Chr. Bedingfield's letter I think I may justly require a sight of it, that I might knowe what he laies to my charge. As for what I said to him I will assure your Lordship I will neyther deny nor be ashamed of the discourse I had with him, tending only to the same end that I have discoursed with your Lordship this many yeares, which was to persuade you to keep friend to the King's interest, I believing that your reputation as well as your interest obliged you to it. But I doe nowe condemne myselfe for having been too zealous upon that point for which I crave your Lordship's pardon, although I think I can answer for it to the worlde before whom I have for this seaventeen or eighteen yeares declared a particular respect for your Person, and have upon all occasions stuck close to you as you yourselfe will knowe, having no ends beside but to procure peace in these parts. There is certainly something more than ordinary in it that you should just now and never before make such sinister interpretations of an act of friendship, and wonder that I should be troubled at your publick appearing with those whom you yourselfe knowe have often declared to be no friends to His Majesty, and this is the sume of what you can take offence at, for whatsoever it is you have been pleased to say neyther you nor anybody can think me soe ignorant in good manners as upon any other account to take upon me to meddle in or prescribe your visitts, neyther did I offer any injury to your Lordship in lessning of mine, being a man inconsiderable, and finding all those visits I made prove to so little Purpose and this was the plaine right doune meaning of my letter to your Lordship when I said I could not hereafter so frequently appear at Raynham as I had done, all the rest of my letter I think was only such civilityes as is ordinarily paid to Persons of your quality from those that would shew their affections and respects, and it may be easily understood without the help of philosophy or double dealing that I may reserve an esteem for your Person yet not comply with your actions. Indeed I may possibly have good cause to be ashamed of the affectionate expressions I then made, unless I receyve something under your hand that may give me good reasons to subscribe myself as formerly I have done, my Lord,

Your Lordship's humble servant,

HENRY BEDINGFIELD.

My cousen Chris. Bedingfield coming to my house tooke occasion to exclayme against my Lord Townshend in the highest nature imaginable for his indiscretion in meeting Colonell Cock and others at Mr. Bullard's house. I replied that I was very sorry for it, both for my Lord's sake and my owne, for I should not think it fitt for me hereafter to appear so frequently at Raynham as I had done, though I could still remayne my Lord's humble servant, and I desired him as a friend to us both to tell him soe.

HENRY BEDINGFIELD.

(Copy ?)

EXTRACTS OF PRICES, &c., from several ANNUAL ACCOUNTS
of SIR J. and Sir H. HOBART.

1678.—20 milch cows at £3 10s. apiece.

8 bullocks at £2 5s. a piece.

Sold on an inventory taken for rent in arrear.

1689.—Bricks 12s. per thousand.

1696.—Harvest wages:—

For the whole harvest £1 17s. 6d.

John Berney for 7 weeks £2 9s.

A bill of many disbursements by Mr. Thomas Bell of Olton for severall things by him bought at Stirbridge ffaire in September, 1696, for the use of Sir Henry Hobart as followeth:—

	£	s.	d.
For 2 Cheshire cheeses weighing 29lb. and 14lb. } at 35s. per hundred	1	1	10
Item for 3 stone 4lb. of hoppes at £1 6s. per } stone	4	6	8
Item for carriage and portorage	0	3	0
	5	11	1

Various memoranda relating to the sale of timber, 17th cent.

1671-1698.—Accounts of the King's Bench and Marshalsea prisons, by Sir John Hobart and Sir Henry Hobart, respectively, treasurers.

1672-80.—Receipts, including receipts for chimney money.

1671-4.—Hevingham cum Marsham rent account.

1672-84.—Blickling Manor accounts.

1672-82.—Saxthorpe Manor accounts.

1664.—Horsham St. Faith's Manor accounts.

1679.—Election Expenses.

1679, May 6.—Received then of Sir John Hobart, Bart., by the hands of John Brewster the sum of twenty shillings for the hire of a horse to London at the hearing at the Barre of the house of Commons. I say rec^d.

WILLIAM WOOLER.

1689, Feb. 25.—Twenty men from Upwell, Esning, Wisbech, and Walsoken. Left to pay att the Rampant Horse four pounds, sixteen shillings. S^d. 20 men pold for Sir Henry Hubard.

1681.—Coach hire for the servants from Blickling to London cost £7.

1682, Jan. 2.—Order of Privy Council allowing Sir Hen. Hobart to surrender his lease from His Majesty of the hundred of Mitford (Duchy of Lancaster).

(The same was much infringed by the Sheriff of the County of Norfolk where ye same lyes.)

1683, July 13.—Note of those armes taken from Blickling by Capt. Doughtey and Capt. Hauten on July 13th. 1683.

2 blunder busses	6 gonletts
2 carbins	8 gorgetts
8 roller of bandoleers	2 Buff coats
1 brass of pistles	4 pair of iron sleeves
2 buff belts	4 pair of cuishes
6 old swords	3 backes and breests
8 clubs with jukes	14 skirts
14 fourteen blacke bills	3 backe skirts.
5 halberts	
6 javelins	
1 Patison	
5 beavers	
3 head peices	

FROM SIR HEN. HOBART'S ACCOUNT BOOKS.

1688, Nov. 1.—*Item*. To John Burritt and John Buttefant being the two soldiers that served in the armie for Chaplyfield estate in Norwich for one day's pay at 2s. 6d. a piece, 5s.; and the muster master's fee for two yeares, 2s.; and for powder and bullets, 2s. in all.

1688, Dec. 13.—*Item* more to the above said Warren for carrying a letter from Norwich to Blickling, then with a warrant from the Cheife Constable to send out a Light Horse for Wymondham estate to meet at Attlebridge. *Item* for orange riband for favours for the twoe soldiers that served in the armie for the Chaplyfield estate, the rest of the Company being all in the same colour. } 7s. 6d.

CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY with the ACT OF UNIFORMITY.

1681, March 27. Intwood cum Keswick.—These may certify those whom it may concern that we whose names are underwritten did hear Ric. Clarke, Rector of Intwood in Keswick aforesaid, on the day and year above written, declare his assent and consent according to the Act of Uniformity and also read publiqly the thirty-nine Articles after divine service in the parish church aforesaid.

Witness our hands :—

S^d Robert Hamond,
Walter + Howard, church wardens.
his mk.

Roger Hamond.
Willliam Howard.
Francis Eagle.
Henry H Bayes.
his marke.

J^N COLLINGES to [SIR HENRY HOBART].

1683, Oct. 24. Norwich.—Answering his enquiry about a Lease. “There did indeed a gentleman concerned write to me about cataloguing and prizing Sir John’s library, but I declined it not onely in regard of my wofull distractions about my son’s busines, not yet issued, which ty me to this towne, but judging my self no way fit, for tho as to Divinity bookes and ordinary Philologicall bookes I could doe possibly as much as another, yet I beleevved Sir John’s Library consisted mostly of French bookes and choice bookes of Philology, in which I had no skill at all. I also told him this was no place to sell such bookes in, but if they must be sold, the best way were to have them to London and add the catalogue to some other libraryes in an auction, for as to such bookes, a book of 20s. in this towne would not give 5s. I also told him I had one of the bookes belonging to Sir J. H., viz., Davilas Fr. History, which I borrowed of him. As to yourself, Sir, I remember nothing reflexive upon your Honour (I have bin looking sometime for the l^r to have sent you the words in it, but I cañot find where I have throwne it) all that was in it. He seëmed a little troubled that y^u would not please as yet to be positive whether to take the goods as the house stands furnished, which he thought might be acceptable to any lady you should chuse, so as I concluded there was some little discontent betwixt you and that he would have been willing to be secured from trouble. And now, Sir, that I have mentioned a lady I must tell you of the kindnes of a merchant in London to you, one Mr. Polluxfen (Brother I think to the great Lawyer who told Mr. Dearsley that if a Lady would be acceptable to you that had 5 or 6,000, and 700 per an. at present, he would recommend such a one to you). Mr. Dearsley wrote it to me either that week or the week following that wherin your never to be forgotten father dyed, which made me not before mention it, nor should I now, but that you might know the respects of the gentleman. If the motion be beneath you, my self know him not so much as *ore tenus*. Really, Sir, I cannot tell who to recommend you if you desire the bookes should be [*illegible*]. Mr. Haylett is the fittest I know, if he will catalogue them and come to this town I will doe the best service I can to affix prices. But I feare we shall both be out quickly, not understanding Frenche bookes, nor the choicer pieces of Philology. Let Davila, Sir, I pray be set down with the rest. I have waited an opportunity a long time to restore it to its place. And now, Sir, I beseech the God of Heaven that y^r Noble Father’s and Lady Mother’s prayers may be answered unto your bosom and that y^r country might repay to you all your father’s merits of them and you may have many dayes to let them see that Sir John liveth still in Sir Henry [Hobart] without Pythagorean *metèmpsychosis*.

Since I wrote what is above my sister Mitchel hath brought in two pieces of newes, the one is of a murrain of horses in Essex. M^{rs}. Nightingale (M^{rs}. Cocks daughter) by a l^r to her mother this day lets her know she hath lost her 4 coach horses of it. The

other is more strange, brought by one Gargrane, a good sober fellow that collects the hearth money. Being last week at Acle the Inkeeper told him the night before most of their houses were filled with greate Toads so as he gathered them up with shovels and threw them into fire till for the stench he could hardly abide in the house, the rest he threw into a yard. Next morning all were gone. They talk how that they came down in a shower.

JOHN BREWSTER, [Steward,] to SIR HEN. HOBART.

1684.—Being sensible that your defensive armes would not be returned tyme enough to get them cleansd and new colours tyme enough to have them ready at the generall muster, I went to Will^m Smyth's where they were lodg'd and found there twoe backs, one brest, and one headpiece, which together with what was left at Blickling I made up 3 suits of armour (one headpiece excepted), and I must eyther borrow or els buy one against this day. (I wanted one) sword and finding one at Will^m Smyths and brought it away and twoe case of new pistolls I have bought and am promised another by Mr. Fountayn for the muster, the coates and belts will be new drest against the tyme. I have alsoe bespoke 3 new saddles, there being none at Blickling but one and one not worth anything. My horse and rider are in readiness in Claxton, and Mr. Britiffe will furnish you with the other twoe and I think to send in the old Riders with Sir H^y R. troope. Barney is one of them whoe though a little fellow yet having formerly rode and being listed there I think may doe better than another.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS OF THE LIEUTENANCY
OF THE COUNTY OF NORFOLK.

Present, His Grace the Duke of Norfolk.

1688, Oct. 7.—Ordered that summons be sent to the Gentlemen lately turned out of the Commission of the Peace to appear at the Duke's Palace, Norwich, on Wednesday, the tenth of this instant, and sent out to Sir John Holland, Sir Jacob Astley, ^xSir Robert Kemp, ^xSir Thos. Ward, Sir W. Cook, B^{ts}; Sir Neville Catelyn, K^{nt}. Th^{os}. Knyvett, Robert Sucklyng, John Harbord, John Knyvett, Robert Houghton, John Jay, Sir W. Rant, K^t; Dr. Robert Pepper, Rich. Wyth, Francis Gardiner, Leonard Mapes, Abraham Castle, ^xFrancis Windham, Robert Daye, Charles le Gros, Thomas Sotherton, Robert Day, John Richmond, John Aide, John Repps and Hugh Hovell, E^sqrs.

To whom his Majesty offered to reinstate them in their commissions.

REPLY of the JUSTICES OF THE PEACE who had been
turned out of his Commission.

1688, October.—May it please your Grace,—When it was His Majesty's pleasure to honour us with his Commission we served him with loyalty and fidelity and as we were obliged by the Church of England and our allegiance. And we are steadily

resolved to continue in all dutiful obedience to His Majesty and will be most willing and ready to serve His Majesty in all things which may consort with his Majesty's honour and our safety, which we cannot do by our acting in conjunction with Persons unqualified and incapacitated by the Laws of this Realm, especially by the statutes of the 25th of the late King.

The Lynn &c. Division met the Lord Lieutenant at the White Swan, Swaffham, and the like answer was given by those present (including) Sir Nicholas Le Strange, Sir Thomas Hare, Sir Thomas Gerard, B^{ts} ; Sir Christoph. Cathorpe, K.C.B., Sir Francis Guybon, Robert Walpole, Edmund Woodhouse, Henry Oxborough, Francis Cremer, Robert Wardell, Robert Coney, Lee Warner, ^xGabriell Armiger, Tho^s. Wright, Thomas Barber, Hatton Berners and Thomas Peirson.

N.B.—Those gentlemen who have this mark ^x against their names did not appear being out of the county and Sir Thomas Garard appeared at Norwich and Sir Jacob Astley at Swaffham.

1688, Oct. 10.—Copy of an order of the Lord Lieutenant calling out the six militia troops of Horse upon four days' duty. Reciting an order of His Majesty of the 2nd October this instant requiring him to call together such part of the Militia Horse as he should think fit (who in case of Invasion might) "hinder evill disposed persons from joining with the Enemy."

Warrants were issued accordingly to His Grace's troop to meet at Swaffham upon Tuesday 16th October by ten of the clock and there to remain four days till further order.

Sir Francis Guybon's Troop to meet at Hempton Green upon Tuesday 16th October and to quarter at Fakenham and Hempton for four days till further order.

Capt. John Houghton's Troop to meet at Lingwood Heath upon Saturday 20th day of October and to quarter in Norwich for four days till further order.

Sir William Rant's Troop to meet at North Walsham upon Wednesday the 24th day of October and to quarter at North Walsham for four days till further order.

Capt. Phillip Bedingfield's Troop to meet at Mulbarton upon Monday the 29th of October and to quarter at Norwich for four days till further order.

Capt. Robert Long's Troop to meet at Totnell Heath upon Fryday the 2nd day of November and to quarter at Lin for four days till further order.

1688, Nov. 1.—Ordered by the Duke of Norfolk that summons be sent forthwith to the Deputy Lieutenants and Justices of the Peace in and about the Sea Coast to attend His Grace at his Palace at Norwich upon Saturday the 3rd this instant November by eleven of the clock in the forenoon (about watching the coast), &c.

1688, November 9.—Orders by the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Lieutenant, discharging the yellow regiment of Militia foot

under the command of Sir Nicholas L'Estrange which had been ordered to muster at Lynn that day "by reason the small pox is very much in in Lin Regis and that in quartering the said Regiment there may be a means to dispers that Contagion about the country" to be ready nevertheless to appear with their armes compleat at an houres notice. An express sent to Lin forthwith.

1688, November 28th.—Pursuant to an order received from His Grace the Duke of Norfolk summons were sent to the Deputy Lieutenants and other gentlemen to attend His Grace at the Palace in Norwich upon Saturday, the first of December, by 9 of the clock in the forenoon.

1688, December 1. Norwich.—His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, attended by his Deputy Lieutenants, Militia officers and several other gentlemen, went into the Market Place, where the Mayor and Aldermen met his Grace, to whom his Grace made the following speech :—

Mr. Mayor,—Nothing doubting but you and the rest of the Body as well as the whole Citty and County may be alarmed by the great concourse of gentry with the numerous appearance of their friends and tenants, as well as your owne Militia here this morning, I have thought this the most proper place, as being the most publick one, to give you an account of our intentions.

Out of the deep sense we had that in the present unhappy position of affaires nothing we could think of was possible to secure the Laws, Liberties, and Protestant Religion but a free Parliament we are here met to declare that we will do our utmost endeavour to defend them by declaring for such a free Parliament.

But since His Majesty has been pleased (by the news we have this day) to order writs for a Parliament to sett upon the 15 January next, I can only ad in the name of myselfe and all these gentlemen and others here met that we will ever be ready to support your Laws and liberties and the Protestant religion.

And soe God save the King.

Upon which Mr. Mayor and Aldermen gave his Grace and the rest of the gentlemen thanks for their good intentions, and a numerous assembly did concur with his Grace and the rest of the gentlemen.

His Grace being attended by great numbers of ordinary people to His Grace's palace, he at his alighting called them to him and told them he desired they would not take any occasion to commit any disorder or outrages but goe quietly to their houses, and acquainted them that the King had ordered a free Parliament to be called, upon which they went away well satisfied.

. 1688, Dec. 3. Norwich.—Pursuant to orders from the Duke of Norfolk the Deputy Lieutenants Militia Officers and other Gentlemen were summoned to attend His Grace at Lin Regis the 7th of this instant December by 9 of the clock in the forenoon who appeared accordingly and accompanied him into the market place where the Mayor of Lin (being attended by the Aldermen and a great number of people) made the following speech to His Grace.

My Lord,—The dayly allarums wee receive as well from forraigne as domestick Enemies give us just apprehensions of approaching dangers which press us to apply with all earnestness to your Grace as our great Patron in an humble confidence to succeed in our expectations that we may be put into such a posture by your Grace's direction and conduct as may make us appear as zealous as any in the defence of the protestant Religion, the Laws, and ancient Government of the Kingdome being the desire of many hundreds amongst us who most humbly challenge a right to your Grace's protection.

HIS GRACE the DUKE OF NORFOLK'S ANSWER to the
MAYOR OF LIN.

Mr. Mayor,—I am very much obleidged to you and the rest of the Body, and these here present for your good opinion of me and the Confidence you have that I will doo what in me lyes to supporte and defend your Laws and Liberties and the Protestant Religion which I will never deceive you in. And since the comeing of the Prince of Orange has given us an opportunity to declare for the defence of them; I can only assure you that no man will venture his life more freely for the defence of the Laws Liberties and Protestant Religion than I will doe.

In which all these gentlemen here present and many more doe unanimously concur, and you shall see that all possible care shall be taken that such a Conjunction requires.

1689, September 7th. Norwich Castle.

Present :—Sir Henry Hobart.

Roger Pott. } B^{ts}.
W. Cooke. }

Fr^{as} Guybon, K.

John Harbord, Esq.

Order, to read the following letter of the Lord Lieutenant.

Gentlemen,—Whereas there are severall persons that have refused to take the oath mentioned and appointed to be taken by an Act of Parliament Intituled an Act for abrogating the Oath of Supremacy and Allegiance and appointing other oaths, &c., And others have refused or neglected to appear upon the summons that has been sent them (not giving a just excuse) I consider it necessary for His Majesty's service that you presently issue out orders or warrants to Disarme all such suspect Persons taking care that all arms so seized be secured and a just account thereof be returned to the office of His Majesty's ordnance.

Your servant,

NORFOLKE.

London, Aug. 29, 1689.

To the Deputy Lieutenants of the County of Norfolk or any three or more of them.

Ordered that our Clerk, M^r. Edmund L'Estrange, return the following answer to the Duke of Norfolk.

May it please your Grace,—In obedience to your Grace's command I have been to wait upon the Respective Deputy

Lieutenants in the several Divisions with the order received from your Grace bearing date the 29 of August for the disarming of such persons as have refused to take the oath mentioned and appointed to be taken by an Act of Parliament Intituled an Act for abrogating the Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance, &c., and accordingly the Deputy Lieutenants following met at the Grand Jury room at the Castle at Norwich upon Saturday the 7th instant to consult about the best method for putting your Grace's order into execution, viz.: Sir Henry Hobart, Sir Roger Potts, Sir W. Cooke, Sir Francis Guybon, and L^d. Coll. John Harbord, who having taken into consideration a late Act of Parliament Intituled an Act for the better securing of the Government by disarming Papists and reputed Papists, which as yet has not been put in execution (tho at the Sessions upon Saturday last held at Norwich by adjournment they were issuing out orders to proceed thereupon) they think that to putt in execution your Graces order against such as have refused to take the oaths (being Protestants) may be respited for some short time without any Prejudice to the Government, hoping that some who have refused to take the Oaths upon better consideration may take the said Oaths, however they resolve in case they doe not, to proceed against them with as much severity as the law will permit, pursuant to your Grace's order. And this they have commanded mee with the tendrance of their humble duty and service to give your Grace an account of with the assurance that they will ever be most ready to pay their obedience to your Grace's commands upon all occasions.

Norwich, Sept. 9, 1689.

1689, Sept. 30th. Norwich Castle.

Present:—Sir Henry Hobart.
 Sir Roger Potts }
 Sir Jacob Astley } Barts.
 Sir W^m. Cooke }
 Sir Francis Guybon, K^t.
 Thomas Knyvet }
 Robert Walpole } Esqs.
 John Hudson }

The Deputy Lieutenants took the oaths appointed to be taken by a late Act of Parliament intituled an Act for the abrogating of the Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance and appointing other oaths.

Order, that the following Letter of His Grace the Duke of Norfolk be read :

1689, Sept. 19th London.— . . . If I remember right there was two objections against the disarming those that had refused the Oath, the one that it would look hard for them to be used so when the Roman Catholicks were not. To which I answer both the Roman Catholicks and they be used so now, at the same time, for if by their actions they so little distinguish themselves from them, pray let them fare alike in this particular only with this difference, that the Roman Catholicks' horses ought to be taken as well as their arms. And as for the 2nd that they

may alter their minde to take them hereafter, I answer to that that whenever those that refuse them now shall take them I shall always fear there will be more of self interest in it than any affection to the present Government that can be relied on, for the taking those oaths or not is not so new a matter that any person can be unprepared or surprized in what he does, and tho' no man, I believe, has shewn himselfe less willing (ever since I have had any concern in Norfolk) to do a hard thing to any gentleman than I; and that I have always used these particular gentlemen with as much respect and friendship as any in the County, yet when it comes to the owning a Government which we must support or fall with it this is no jesting and I desire that the Deputy Lieutenants will doe effectually what I dare say they must not only think fit but necessary for the occasion.

Yr aff. friend,

[*Addressed*]

NORFOLK.

These for Mr. Edmund l'Estrange of Horstead, Norfolk.

Ordered. That a warrant be drawn forthwith for the disarming of Sir Nicholas l'Estrange of Hunstanton, Bart., Sir Christopher Calthorpe of East Basham, Knight of the Bath, Capt. James Calthorpe of West Basham, Esq., and Charles Hastings of Wighton, Esq., as persons suspected to be dangerous to the peace of the Kingdom, and that the said warrants be directed to Gabriell Armiger, Esq., Capt. of a company of Militia presently in the Hundred of Gallow and Brothercross, for the execution thereof.

A warrant was signed accordingly.

1690, July 19. Norwich Castle.

Present :—

Sir Francis Guybon, K ^t .	Sir Roger Potts	} B ^{ts} .
Robert Walpole.	Sir John Pettus	
John Harbord.	Sir John Astly	
Edmund Wodehouse.	Sir W ^m . Cooke	

A letter was read from the Council dated 15 July. Reciting that "there is great reason by late intelligence to apprehend that the French may speedily attempt an invasion of this Kingdom" ordering the L^d Lieutenant to cause the several troops of Militia Horse within his Lieutenancy to be called together for a month's training.

ENGLISH AND DUTCH FLEET AGAINST THE FRENCH IN THE YEAR 1691.

Our Fleet in the year 1691.

Red Squadrons.		Captains	Men. Guns.	
	Ships.			
1	Britannia	Edward Russell, Adm ^{ll}	815	100
1	S ^t . Andrew	L ^d . Bartlett	730	96
2	Neptune	Geo. Rook, Rear Adm	660	90
2	Albemarle	S ^r Fra Wheler	660	90
2	Sandwich	Anthony Hastings	660	90

	Ships.		Captains.	Men. Guns.	
2	Vantguard		Richard Carter	660	90
1	St Michael		Th ^o . Hobson	660	90
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2	Victory	Sir Jo. Ashby, Vice Adm ^l		530	82
3	Royall Oake		Geo. Bing	470	70
3	Elizabeth		Prisman	460	70
3	Sterling Castle		Ben Waters	460	70
3	Essex		Bridges	460	70
3	Lenox		Richard Munden	460	70
3	Restauration		John Gothier	460	70
<hr/>					
3	Exeter		George Mees	460	70
3	Hope		Prichard	460	70
3	Berwick		Richard Martyn	460	70
3	Burford		Hartlow	460	70
3	Eagle		John Leake	460	70
<hr/>					
3	Warr Spight		Stafford Fairborne	420	70
3	Harwich		Robert Roberson	420	70
3	Montague		Symon Foulkes	400	66
3	Dreadnought		Basill Beaumont	355	62
3	Plymouth		Mayne	340	62
<hr/>					
	Blew.		Men	12380	1828
	Ships.		Captains.	Men. Guns.	
1	Souverayne		Sr. Ralp D'lavall, Vice Ad ^l	815	100
1	London	Sr. Cloudsley Shovell, Rear Adm ^l		780	100
2	Duke		Henry Killigrew, Adm'	660	90
2	Coronation		Charles Shelton	660	90
2	Duchess		Jo. Clements	660	90
2	Windsor Castle		Geo. Churchill	660	90
2	Ossery		Jo. Tyrrell	660	90
2	Katherine			540	82
3	Captaine		Danyell Jones	460	72
3	Edgar		Mathew Trophy	445	72
3	Suffolk		Ch ^r Billop	460	70
3	Hampton Court		Thomas Traydon	460	70
3	York			460	70
3	Northumberland		Andrew Cotton	460	70
3	Expedition		Dover	460	70
3	Kent		John Nevill	460	70
3	Grafton		W ^m . Boknham	460	70
3	Lyon		Rob ^t . Wiseman	460	70
3	Reflection		Earle of Danby	420	70
3	Defyance		Gourney	420	70
3	Swiftsure		Clarke	420	70
3	Cambridge		Listock	420	70
3	Monmouth		Robert Reynolds	400	66
3	Monk		Ben Hoskins	340	60
<hr/>					
				12440	1842

Convoys and out cruising.

	Commanders in chief.	Men.	Guns.
3 Rupert	Math Aylmer	400	70
4 Leopard		280	54
4 Oxford	Seth Thirston	280	54
4 Woollwich	Richard Kigwin	280	54
4 Happy Return	Monk	280	54
4 St. Albans	Richard ffitz Patrick	280	54
4 Deptford		280	54
5 Newcastle	David Lambert	280	54
4 Portland	Thomas Lee	240	50
4 Sampson	Hen. Robinson	240	50
4	John Glanville	230	48
4 Reserve	J. Crawley	230	48
4 Crowne	Sillmott	230	48
4 Tyger Prize	James Barber	230	48
4 Dover		230	48
4 Bonaventure		230	48
4 Ruby	Frederick Froude	230	48
4 Bristoll	Horton	230	48
4 Antelope	Henry Wickham	230	48
4 Mordant	Batteler	230	48
4 Swallow	John Bridget	230	48
4 Assistance	Kegwin	230	48
4 Kingfisher	Th ^{os} . Johnson	220	48
4 Archangell	Jasper Hickes	200	48
4 Princess Anne	Richard Badford	200	48
4 Barkley Castle	Will ^m Talmash	200	48
4 George	Jo. Frankmore	200	48
4 Successe	Will. North	200	48
4 Coronation	Thomas Reyner	200	48
4 Phenixe	John George	180	48
4 Portsmouth	George St. Hue	220	46
4 Mary Galley	Danyell Dearing	200	44
4 Sam and Henr	Rob ^t . Venner	180	44
6 Jerusalem	John Vepnell	180	44
4 Constant Warwick	Abr. Potter	180	42
4 Nonsuch	Rob. Synock	180	42
4 Haniball	John Waters	160	40
4 Scepter	Will Rogers	160	40
5 Smyrna Merchant	James Salmon	110	34
5 Supply	W ^m . Harding	110	34
4 Charles Galley	Jer. Roach	220	32
5 Sapphire	Ch ^r . Mynns	135	32
5 Dartmouth	Young	135	32
5 Sapphire	Roger Killigrew	135	32
4 James Galley		200	30
5 Garland	John Jenypher	130	30
5 Gernesey	Rob ^t . Arthur	130	30
5 Pearle		130	30
6 Owner's Endeavour	Michaell Berry	100	30
5 Richmond		125	28

		Commanders in chief.	Men.	Guns.
6	Monmouth Yacht	W ^m . Wright	030	18
6	Greyhound	Thomas Gillan	075	16
6	Souldadaes	Francis Whuell	075	16

10480 2274

	Ships.	Captains.	Men.	Guns.
5	Drake	Tho. Spragg	75	16
6	Stubbs Yacht	John Johnson	40	12
6	Dumbarton	Th ^o . Row	80	10
6	Deptford Ketch	Tho. Berry	50	10
6	Quaker Ketch	Austin Breswin	50	10
6	Sallamander	Jo. Votier	35	10
6	Mary Yacht	Henry Cullings	30	8
6	Catherine Yacht	Gabriell Mellison	30	8
6	Henrietta Yacht	W ^m . Sanderson	30	8
6	Kingfisher Ketch	Edw ^l Boyne	25	8
6	ffanfare	Edw. Pattinger	30	4
6	Cleaveland Yacht	Rich. Byron	30	8

00505 0112
10480 2274

Brought over

Men in Convoys and Cruisers 10985 2386

Men	
Ships in the Redd Squadron	24
In the Blew Squadron	24
Convoys and Cruisers	65

English ships 113

Dutch ships 068
Fire ships 030

Ships in all 211

Men in the Redd Squadron	12380
Men in the Blew Squadron	12440
Men in the other ships	10985

Men in all 35805

Gunns in ye Redd Squadron	1828
In the Blew Squadron	1842
In the other ships	2386

Guns in all 6056

English	First Rate Ships	05
	Second Rates	11
	Third Rates	33
	Fourth Rates	37
	fifth Rates	10
	Sixth Rates	17
Dutch Ships	First Rate Ships and Second	} 09
	3 rd Rates	21
	Fourth Rates	17
	fifth Rates	11
	Gallyots and flutes	10

NORFOLK LIEUTENANCY JOURNALS.

1695[-6], March 2.—Norwich Castle. *Present* :—Sir Robert Potts, Sir William Cooke, Barts., Sir Neville Catelyn, Knight, Ash Windham and Edmond Wodehouse, Esquires.

The Copy of an order in Council for the seizing of the Persons and arms of all Papists and Persons disaffected to the Government having been read

And a letter from the Lord Lieutenant of the 25 February ordering the calling out of the Militia Horse and the Trained Bands of the County for the purpose

Ordered. That the respective Captains of the Militia Horse in the County doe seize and secure the persons and arms of Papists and Persons whom we in this conjuncture have reason to suspect to be disaffected to the present Government according to the directions following and that the seizure be made throughout this county upon Monday the 9th of this instant March 1695.

Ordered. That Capt. Erasmus Earle doe call together and march his Troop into Gt. Yarmouth upon Monday the 9th of this instant March and doe the same day seize and secure the persons and arms of Barnaby Wale of Aldbey, Robt. Brown, John Brown, and Robt. Spencer, all of S. Walsham, Samuell Young of Loddon, George Marsh of Aldbey, John Spencer of Wotton, Gawin Nash of Blofield, Thomas Huby of Topcroft, Wm. Pierce of Wotton, John Urwin of G^t. Yarmouth, Abraham Castle of Thrigbey,

Welsh of Ludham Hall. All which persons are to be conveyed by him to the Corporation of G^t Yarmouth where he is also to receive and secure such prisoners as shall be sent to him at Great Yarmouth by any Commissioned Officer or his order and the said persones to keep in safe custody during his 4 days duty there. And that the said Capt. Earle be relieved by Sir Wm. Rant's Troope upon Thursday the 12th of this instant March by Two of the Clock in the afternoon of the same day to whome he is then to deliver such Prisoners as shall be in his custody at the same time.

Ordered. That Capt. Sir Wm. Rant do upon Munday the 9th of this instant March seize and secure the persons and armes of Edward Paston, Esq., James Weld of Sherringham, Ed. Fuller of North Walsham, Doctor Smith, Wm. Parker, Edmund Suffield, Christopher Layer of Booton, Wm. Lucar, Lake of Sparham, Ck. and doe forthwith convey the said persons to the Corporation of G^t. Yarmouth . . . and that Capt. Sir W. Rant do raise no more of his Troop at that time than the occasion will require. But that the said Sir Wm. Rant doe raise his whole Troop upon Thursday the 12th of this instant March (to relieve Capt. Earle).

Ordered. That Capt. Philip Bedingfield doe upon Monday the 9th of this instant March seize and secure the persons and arms of Sir Robert Yallop, Kt., Charles Yallop, Esq., Thomas Wood, Esq., Thomas Havers, Doctor Chitleburgh and Rob. Chitleburgh and convey them to Yarmouth. (To raise his whole Troop on the 15th instant and relieve Rant at Yarmouth.)

Ordered. Captain James Hoste to call together and march his troop into Swaffham on the 9th instant and the same day secure the person and arms of Geoffrey Cobbe of Appleton and convey him to Swaffham.

Ordered. That Lt. Col. Sir Francis Guybon do upon Monday 9th instant seize and secure the Persons and arms of Sir Henry Beddingfield, Bart., Beaumont Tasburgh, Esq., Edmund Blackbourne, Anthony Beddingfield, Henry Timperley, Charles Hastings, Charles Peyton, Jeoffrey Cobbs, Matthew Cuffin, John Catteway of Weston, Thomas Marwood steward to Sir Henry Beddingfield, Matthew Holcot of Lutcham (*sic*), (Thomas Duvall, John Clarke, Wm. Taylor, Wm. Bell, all of Swaffham), Shaw of East Basham, Clk. (and convey them to Swaffham and deliver to Capt. James Hoste).

(Also to secure the persons and arms of Sir Nicholas l'Estrange, Bart., Sir Christopher Calthorpe, Knight of the Bath, and deliver them to the custody of Col. Edmond Wodehouse, and to raise his whole Troop and relieve Capt. Hoste on the 12th.)

Ordered. That Capt. Chas. Wright on Monday 9th instant do seize and secure the persons and arms of Sir Francis Jernegan, Bart., Sir Robert Yallop, Knt., Charles Yallop, Esq., and Giles Yallop, and convey them to Swaffham. (To raise his whole Troop on the 15th and relieve Capt. Sir Francis Guybon.)

1695[-6], March 8.—An order in Council dated 5 March being received this day discharging the previous order for assembling the militia horse. Notice was immediately given to discharge the troops on duty and to discharge such persons as should be in their custody.

1700-1751.—MISCELLANEOUS MEMORANDA AND LETTERS.

MARY COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK to

1702[-3], Feb. 2.—This comes to lett you know that to-morrow evening, Wensday, the corpes of M^{rs}. Anne Hobart are carryed hence towards Norfolk, and wilbee at Norwich on Saturday night next. She is to be buried on Sunday immediately after

Sermon in Sir John Hobart's vault in Brickling Church. The body is not to go to Brickling house but directly to the church. I desier that youll take care to speake to the minister and clerk to be in readyness, &c.

The following gentlemen are desired to hold up the Pall:—

Mr. Thomas Herne.

The two Mr. Fleetewoods.

Mr. Jarneys son of Bayfeild.

In case any of these cannot be had, then:—

Mr. Fountaine of Sall.

Mr. Parston, my L. Yarmouth's son.

There is but four designed for all.

You are to give ye Minister a guinea, and to ye Clarke and Sexton what you thinke propper, and amongst the poor twenty shillings. This is what Mr. Hobart hath desired me to write you, who am,

Your friend,

M. SUFFOLKE.

1703, Oct. 28.—A Schedule signed by W. Billing of 13 Pictures which, as appears from a Bill of Sale upon the same Paper, were sold to him by Sir Henry Hobart, late of Blickling, and were now (Oct. 28, 1703) bought back on behalf of Sir John Hobart,* Barronett, an Infant, son and heire of the late Sir Henry, by John Brewster, of Fundenhall, in Norfolk, for the sum of fifty pounds. (Receipted on the back.)

1. One piece of the Lord Chief Justice Hobart.

2. Sir John Hobart, his son.

3. Lady Frances, wife to the said Sir John Hobart. She was eldest daughter to the Earl of Bridgewater.

4. Mr. Myles Hobart, grandfather to the late Sir Henry Hobart.

5. The said Mr. Myles Hobart's Lady.

6. Sir John Hobart, grandfather to the present Sir John Hobart,* drawn when he was a young man and wore his owne haire.

7. Another piece of the said Sir John Hobart of later date drawn with a wigg.

8. The said Sir John Hobart's last lady, grandmother to the present Sir John Hobart.

9. Sir James Hobart, sometimes Attorney Generall, a piece of antiquity. He built Loddon Church.

10. Mrs Mary Trevor, sister to the present Lord Chief Justice of that name.

11. Lady Massey { Daughters to the Lady Hobart.

12. Mrs. Preston {

13. Mrs. Elizabeth Hamond, grandmother to the present Sir John Hobart by Mr. Hamond her former husband (*sic*).

1703, Dec.—A receipt from Mary Countess of Suffolk for half a year's allowance for the six daughters of Sir Henry Hobart. [Anne, Elizabeth, Henrietta, Philippa, Dorothy and Catherine.]

* First Lord Hobart and Earl of Buckinghamshire.

1703[-4], Feb. 6, 7 and 8.—Note of expenses of Mrs. Anne Hobart's funeral at Blickling.

1704.—Memoranda relating to burial of Philippa Hobart.

1705.—A receipt for money "paid to the use of the poore of the parish of Blickling, being the penalty of an Act of Parliament for that Mrs. Elizabeth Hobart who was buried in the said parish church was not wound in woollen according to the direction of the said Act."

1705.—Marriage settlement of Henrietta Hobart and the Hon. Charles Howard.

1706-1710.—Receipts from the Countess of Stamford for allowances for the education and maintenance "of my two nieces Mrs. Dorothy and Katherine* Hobart."

NORFOLK LIEUTENANCY JOURNALS.

1706, April 30.

Present :—Sir Ed. Ward, B^t.
John Harbord, Esq.

A copy of Order in Council of 4th April was received, ordering that the constables take a distinct and particular account of all Papists and reputed Papists with their respective qualities, estates and places of abode.

1707 [-8] March 16.—List of PAPISTS and NON-JURORS whose houses were to be searched for horses and arms by order of the Lieutenancy this day.

By Capt. Philip Beddingfield.

Papists or so reputed.

Charles Hastings of Wiveton, gent. (now of Studdy), Thomas Woods of Colekirke, Esq., Thomas Duvall of Swaffham, gent., William Taylor of Swaffham (dead), Richard Martin of Oxburgh, gent., Anthony Stockdale of Swanton Morly, John Jernegan, Esq., of Oxburgh.

Non-Jurors.

Sir Christopher Calthorpe of East Basham, Knight of the Bath, Thomas Wright of East Basham, clerk.

By Col. Horatio Walpole.

Papists or so reputed.

Edward Paston of Barningham, gent., Jervas Taylor of Billingford (dead), Edward Fuller of North Walsham, Thomas Reily, gent. of North Walsham, Richard Parkes of Aylsham (dead), Hamond Estgate of Brampton, George Bedell of Woodrising Esq., Dicks of Aylsham.

Non-Jurors.

Edward Edmund of Woodaling (dead), Richard Lake of Sparham, clerk, Munsy of Booton, clerk.

* Afterwards wife of General Churchill.

By Capt. Jas. Hoste.

Papists or so reputed.

John Paston of Appleton, Esq.; Geoffrey Cobbs of Appleton, gent., Charles Peyton of Grimston, (jurat) gent., Philip Bell of Wallington, gent., Sarah Hawkins of Downham, widow, Thomas Howse of Downham.

By Capt. Chas. Wright.

Papists or so reputed.

Sir Francis Jernegan of Costesy, Bart., John Jernegan of Costesy, Esq., George Jernegan of Costesy, gent., Edmund Blackbourne of Wymundham, gent., John Copping of Shropham, William Isaack of Ashill, Cuthbert Ridley of Ashill, William Ridley of Ashill.

By Capt. Thos. Berney.

Papists or so reputed.

John Spencer of Bowthorp Hall, gent.

Shottesham All Saints.

Robert Hemlinton of Earsham, Mrs. Elizabeth Havers of Thelveton, widow.

By Capt. Robert Suckling, jun.

Papists or so reputed.

Charles Yallop of Thorpe by Norwich, Esq., John Browne of Acle, gent., Robert Browne of South Walsham, gent., Dorothy Huby of Topcroft, widow, Henry Huby of Topcroft, chirurgeon, Thomas Huby of Topcroft, Coroner, Francis Cooke of Topcroft, farmer, William Price of Woodton, gent., George Marsh of Toft Monks, gent., Samuell Young of Gillingham All Saints, gent.

Non-Jurors.

Giles Yallop of Ludham, gent., John Walsh of Ormsby, gent.

1708, March 27.—The respective captains reported that they did not find any horse of five pounds value in the possession of any of the said papists or disaffected persons; nor arms excepting one musquet belonging to Mr. Richard Lake of Sparham, clerk, a non-juror, which with a belt of bandoliers was seized by Lieutenant Thomas Skottowe, which was ordered to remain in the custody of the said Mr. Skottowe till further order.

1707.—A receipt for half a year's board and schooling of Sir John Hobart from M. Tooke, Bishops Stortford.

1713-14.—Receipts, one for a silver punchbowl presented to Clare Hall, Cambridge, by Sir John Hobart.

1721.—Copy of Sir John Tyrel's will and his marriage settlement with Mrs. Elizabeth Cotton. Papers relating to the execution of his will.

1721-1769.—Five packets of letters and other documents relating to the property of the Hobarts in Cornwall—the Manors of Beer Ferris, Truro, Lanrakhé, etc. Relating also to elections at St. Ives in the years 1721, 1722, 1761, 1766, with lists of Voters. Letters of the 1st and 2nd Earls of Buckinghamshire in relation to these.

1723-1793.—Three packets of papers relating to Henrietta Countess of Suffolk, chiefly in connection with Marble Hill. Among these are :—

“ A Schedule of writings relating to the Freehold, Copyhold and Leasehold Estate of the late Countess of Suffolk at Marble Hill, which were in the possession of the late Earl of Buckingham at the time of his decease ” [in 1793].

A Letter from E. Budgell to the Countess of Suffolk, June 16, 1727, gives “ an account of the Manor of Twickenham without any of that unintelligible cant we Lawyears often use to seem wise ourselves and keep others in the dark.” . . . The Manor is at present possessed by three persons who bought it from the Commissioners. Two of these three present Lords want money very much, so that the thing will be sold, a great Penny worth. . . . As 'tis held under his Majesty you will probably, Madam, be deny'd no reasonable favour you can ask.” From another Paper it appears that “ the whole or part of Twickenham was sold by the Trustees of Forfeited Estates as part of the late Viscount Bolingbroke's Estate.” N.D.

“ A Particular in Rentall of the Manor of Twickenham in Middlesex as sett forth by the Commissioners of the forfeited Estates when purchased by the present owners in 1723.”

A List of Freeholders, Leaseholders and Coppyholders in the the Estate. Among the freeholders and copyholders is Godfrey Kneller.

There are also bills of carpenters' and carvers' work, leases and business letters in connexion with the Marble Hill Estate, 1724-1753.

Business letters addressed to Lady Suffolk by John Earl of Buckinghamshire [her brother], Thomas Ryder and others, 1735.

The Will of George Berkeley, Esq.

A Copy of the Will of W. Plomer. 1742.

The Will of Henrietta Dowager Countess of Suffolk, widow of the Hon. George Berkeley, Esq. Sept. 27, 1758.

A packet of letters and other documents relating to a dispute as to right of way in Twickenham between Henrietta Countess of Suffolk and John Fridenberg, merchant, of the City of London, 1750-1755.

1727.—A copy of General George Wade's Report respecting the disarmament of the Highlands of Scotland, respecting also the recalcitrant clan of the late Earl of Seaforth, the repairing of the Castle of Inverness, the Exile of those attainted for High Treason and the riots on account of the Malt Tax.

1728[1729]-1735.—The will of Brigadier John Hobart of St. Giles in the Fields, Middlesex. [Brother of Sir Henry Hobart of Blickling]. Dated March 22, 1728[9].

Mar. 1734[5]-Nov. 1735.—Three letters addressed to Robert Britiffe from Mrs. Henrietta Bedingfield, ["daughter of the late Dame Dorothy Bedingfield"] relating to business in connection with John Hobart's death in 1734, she being his residuary legatee.

An account of all the plate, moneys, household goods, and of the books in the house of the late Brigadier Hobart. (An account of Family pictures is missing from this packet.)

1728-1739.—A packet of papers relating to the Gunnersbury (or Gunnaldsbury) Estate in Nth Ealing, late of Sergeant Maynard, sold by Lord Hobart to Mr. Henry Furnese in 1739. A survey of the estate describes the house as by Inigo Jones, "with Tapestry and hangings in the great room of the Cartoons, valued at 1,000*l.*; and likewise an Isle in the Parish Church of Ealing, the whole lately rented by the Duke of Queensborough at £300 per an."

A parcel of Letters from Robert Britiffe and W. Bristow to Lord Hobart relate to the sale of this estate and also to the purchase of Manington in Norfolk by the Walpoles.

1731.—Copy of Will of Sir George Walton.

1735.—Poll Books of Norfolk Election.

1740.—A List of the free burgesses of the borough of Malden in the County of Essex.

1749, May 12.—Order from the office of Ordnance to Calder, master gunner of Yarmouth, to receive the arms from L^d Hobart and take them to the Tower, viz. :—

"The armes of the Regiment raised by Lord Hobart at the late Rebellion."

Mem : Arms belonging to the County of Norfolk, 396 firelocks and bayonets.

Arms belonging to the City of Norwich, 198 firelocks and bayonets.

Sent back hyther in 1746 by order of Lord Buckinghamshire.

Recd of the R^t Hon. Earl of Buckinghamshire the arms issued to his Lordship consisting of 399 firelocks and bayonets and 378 cartridge boxes which were delivered to him at the time of the late rebellion as Lord Lieutenant of the County of Norfolk.

SECTION III.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PAPERS.

Part I.—1740-1758.

SIR THOMAS DRURY'S CORRESPONDENCE.

PEDIGREE OF DRURY FAMILY [OF OVERSTONE].

1740.—The Pedigree of the Drury family, by which it appears that Sir Thomas of this date was son to Joyce, daughter and sole heiress of Thomas Beacon, of Ilford, in Essex. Sir Thomas Drury married Martha, second daughter of Sir John Tyrel, of Heron, in Essex, Bart., by Mary, his first wife, daughter of Sir James Dolliffe, of Mitcham, in Surrey.

JOYCE DRURY to [her son] SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1744-[5], Jan. 26. Colne.—I send inclos'd the order for the East India Dividend. I had wrote last post, but have had a return of the gout in my right hand which has made me very ill again.

The letter that came by fryday's post the 10th instant was charged two shillings sixpence, weight two ounces $\frac{1}{2}$. I did not take it as I thought it was only news, I shall be glad to hear that you are well, and how both the children doe, with love to you and lady.

ORDER OF COUNCIL to LORD LIEUTENANTS.

1745, Sept. 5.—Reciting that the eldest son of the Pretender hath Presumed in open violation of the laws to land in the north-west part of Scotland, and ordering them forthwith to cause all arms belonging to Papists, non-jurors, or other persons that shall be judged dangerous to the peace of the kingdom within their Lieutenancy to be seized and secured according to the said Act, and to return an exact account to the Board.

Signed, HARDWICK, DORSET, PEMBROKE, CHOLMONDLEY,
GRANVILLE, WILL. YONGE, T. WINNINGTON.

Copy.

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Sept. 7. Garraways.—The D. of N. has wrote a Letter to the Lord Mayor to acquaint him by the King's order that the Pretender's son has set up his Standard in Scotland, which has caused a Common Council to be called who have agreed to a most Loyal Address. The Merchants have had a meeting and chose the Committy they did last year with addition of Mr. Selwin and our

friend Mr. Janssen, who is the person that has promoted the whole and keeps up the spirit, and they resolved to address his Majesty and there are about 500 subscribed since yesterday, among whom are People of the greatest Fortunes in the City as well as merchants. We are to go to Kenzinton Wednesday next, after which above 200 have subscribed to dine together at Merchant Taylors or some other hall upon which we promise ourselves great aid in the present juncture. Ten of our Redgments are ordered from Flanders and part of the Dutch we judge are already arrived in Scotland. If the affair in these parts be not soon quelled it may prove of Evil consequence.

S. Sea 103.

Bank 143½.

India 173½.

Annu's 103.

Tickets 13.

3 pc^{ts}. 87½.

Salt 6½.

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Sept. 13.—I am favoured with yours of the 11th Inst. Am not at all surprised that you are alarmed, for by the Publick and privat acco^{nts} affairs seem to go in the North not to our wishes, and should any foreign force or forces land there or in any other part of the Kingdom it may prove of bad consequence, as we are at present provided, and we wish your Health would permit you to be in town at this Critical Juncture, for tho' a country Life may be preferable to the Continual dissatisfaction we labour under here still there are certain affairs not to be described at this distance and of which every man can only judge for himself. I would not willingly disturb you and still as you hold Stock on Loan if things do not cleare up you may suffer great inconveniences. Suppose in Nov^r. next the present want of money or rather distrust &c. should increase or Continue, there is not any to be had even at 5% and E. India Bonds are not above 4 per cent. and should they come under parr so as to oblige the Company to give a greater Interest, you know what follows, for my part as I know not how to act for myself, much less can I advise; only thought proper to lay these considerations before you, on the other hand should the rebellion cease, affairs go well abroad by the appearance of a Peace, Every thing would take a different turne and stocks recover their former price, nay higher than Ever, and did you hold no more than what is in your name I should not have writt to you a line on the subject. Upon the whole I heartely wish you may resolve on what will tend most for your advantage.

S. Sea 102.

India 174 for the 30 instant and 175½ for the 12 Novr., which prolongation is after this rate of 7 pc. per annum.

3 pc. 87¼.

Annu' New 105¾.

Tickets 12.

CHAMPION BRANFILL to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Sept. 14. Upminster Hall.—We have Divers Reports as to the Strength and Success of the Rebels but there is not one to be depended on. 'Tis agreed that the Dutch must by this time be landed in Scotland so that we hope soon to hear of their being quelled. I don't believe the Ministers are in very great pain, for we have had no orders about the papists yet which you know we had when they talk¹ but of the Invasion sometime since.

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Sept. 21. Garraway.—I congratulate you on the arrival of 14 E^t India Ships at Galloway in Ireland. They came without convoy; had not providence protected them we had been in a fine condition, as we are Elsewhere. The P. was proclaim'd last tuesday at Edinburgh, the People let the Rebels in without opposition, I can not express my thoughts this way but it looks as if we were betray'd or what is more neglected. The Dutch Troops are all arriv'd in the River Except 5 Transports to Burlington Bay in Yorkshire instead of Scotland. We may expect 6,000 of our forces next week, but still I must confess that people of Property being out of town at this juncture is not prudent. It is an indignity to ——— that 20 people should land above two months since and be suffer'd to put so many people in consternation, and if no more care is taken then what I perceive, the same fate may attend the City.

India 176. Salt 6½.

S. Sea 103. Tickets 13.

Annuis 108.

3 pc. 11½.

Enclosure :—

1745, Sept.—LIST OF SHIPS ARRIVED AT GALLOWAY.

Montague	Freeman	-	Mocha and Bombay
St. George	Robinson	-	Bengal
K. William	Phillips		Bombay
Winchelsea	Adair (dead)		Bengal
Winchester	- Steward		Coast and Bay
Cæsar	Court		St. Helena and Bencoolen
York	- Lafectles ?		Fort St. George and China
Stafford	Baker		China
P. William	Langworth		Coast and Bay
Lapwing	Watts		Bengal and Bencoolen
D. Dorsett	Frognall		Coast and Bay
Beaufort	Stephens		Fort St. George
Godolphin	- Jas. Stephens		Bengal
Dorrington	Crab		Do.

Arrived at Galloway on Monday last.

EARL OF HALIFAX to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Oct. 2. Audley Street, Wednesday night.—Tho' my hands are so full of business that I have not a moment to spare

to anybody but you, I trouble you with this to acquaint you that I am informed the general meeting of our County to consider of proper measures to be taken in the present dangerous situation of our affairs is fixed for Friday next. I set out to-morrow morning and have a place in my Coach at your disposal.

EARL OF HALIFAX to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Oct. 7. Audeley Street, Monday night, 12 o'clock.—I take the earliest opportunity of informing you that His Majesty when I deliver'd the Association to him this morning with our Lord Lieutenant in his Closet (for his Grace's business made us too late for the Levée) express'd the utmost chearfulness and satisfaction at the proceedings of his faithful servants in Northamptonshire. Before I had the Honour of seeing His Majesty he had given directions for my Commission as Colonel to be made out. I hope with your assistance (which I greatly depend upon, hearing how hearty a zeal animates you upon this occasion) and that of my other friends I shall soon compleat my Regiment. Never was there an occasion that called upon us to exert ourselves so strenuously as the present one, and that the safety of the whole depends upon the zeal and spirit of particulars.

P.S.—I am just now informed that Mr. Ward of Stoke, who has already some men, promises ten pence a day to all that will enlist over and above his Majesty's pay. This method I apprehend is a very unfortunate one for us, especially in the beginning of the affair; and I heartily wish it may not get air in our Part of the Country. The Duke of Bedford gives no premium; those who engage with him have only the King's pay and yet his Regiment is almost compleat as I hear already.

CHAMPION BRANFILL to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Oct. 9. Chelmsford.—“We have just now signed here a most loyal Address with an offer of our Lives and Fortunes which you will say is no great Compliment from me and an Association, and tho' late we are come pretty Hearty. We had the Lords FitzWalter and Waldegrave and the greatest Appearance I ever saw at Sess. and almost Assizes.”

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Oct. 12. Garaways.—Our affairs relating to Stocks are somewhat better, tho' the great scarcity of money continues. I have been forced to pay after the rate of 12 cp. p. annum. We are apprehensive for Barwick and nothing but more regular Troops will put an end to our troubles. All things are in my opinion of no service but to hinder the King's Levees and cause discontent among his Troops.

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Nov. 23.—There are sellers of [Lottery] Tickets at £9 14s. which shews you what such affairs are when left to

their own course. The same would have happened last year had I not taken care to prevent it, which might have been done this year by buying about 2,000 Tickets, the want of which I wish may not be of fatal consequences in raising the next supplies.

HUGH MARRIOTT to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Nov. 19. Tooke's Court, near Chancery Lane.—I suppose you know that the City of Carlisle has been under a necessity of capitulating to admit the Rebels and pay 2,000*l.* to save them from Massacre. By the best accounts the Capitulation was made on Thursday night and the Rebels had a Gate given up to them on Friday morning. News of it was immediately sent to Marshal Wade, and the Letters which came from Newcastle to a friend of mine by yesterday's post mention the armys being advanced on their way to Carlisle by Hexham if practicable for the artillery, if not they must return and go round by Bernard Castle, and there is no hope that the Citadel of Carlisle can hold out till they arrive. The enclosed is from our steward in Cumberland written you will see before he knew what was passing about 16 m. further North. When I shall hear from him again God knows, for the enemy is no doubt at Penrith by this time or further and then all Posts will be stopped from thence as they were yesterday from Carlisle. When I pick up anything more than is in the newspapers on good authority I shall acquaint you with it directly and send you my letters if any, which be so good as to return by next post.

Since writing the above I find at the Rolls that it is not the citadel (which is an inconsiderable place) but the Castle that stands out, and that we have secured in it the artillery and military stores.

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Nov. 30. Garraways.—Last Wednesday there was a Meeting at the Crown in order to endeavour to raise part of the Land Tax, and we adjourned till Tuesday next, am apprehensive it will be very difficult to compleat. However I will do on my part all that is in my power. The scarcity of money increases and the Exchange rises for Amsterdam, which proves that the Merchants are willing to give their assistance. The Lord Mayor has opened a subscription as you will find by the Papers. I contributed £100, and will give my assistance as I find it is not to be done from those it was expected. All the News (Except what is in the Papers) is that Stewart the Provost is in London and was taken into custody this morning.

PHILIPPA ISTD to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Dec. 5.—Mr. Neale of Wellingboro is just now come here, and brings word that a gentleman of that town whose authority may be depended on went this morning at three

o'clock to Leicester, where he stayed till several Officers belonging to the Rebel Army arrivid there to demand quarters for the Army which was to be there this evening. Upon that unwell-come news my Aunt desires me to give you this trouble, with her best compliments, and begs the favour of you to send the four horses (you were so good this morning) to offer her by the bearer, with which we purpose setting out as early as possible to-morrow morning. She desires to know which will be most agreeable to you, either for her to return your horses as soon as she gets to Town, or for her to keep them there; whichever you chuse, she with pleasure will do.

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Dec. 5. Garraways.—We expected an account this Evening of an action, but not hearing of any, fear they may have slipt our Army which God forbid. As you are lame I cannot expect you in Town. Otherwise no man would be absent with your Concernes. If you have money in your hands that you make no use of please to send me a drauft for £297 14s. . . . The subscription in the City for the Land Tax amounted to £503,000 and with much difficulty the S. Sea 40,000, London Assurance 50m. and Royall 20,000 to compleat the Affair, but what is that to the sum wanted? In short I am much discontented

P.S.—This is a crisis, if any thing turns in our favour there will be money found.

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Dec. 7. Garraways.—I rec^d yours dated the 5^h am sorry you have been In such a Consternation and do assure you the alarms of the Rebels aproaching had the same Effect here but being informed that his Royal Highness the Duke would be at Northampton this Evening we are in better spirits, there is a perfect stagnation in our affaires here and nothing doing in Stocks except 4 pc. annuis which are under parr.

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Dec. 10.—I hope your consternation has abated by finding the rebells are gone from you, at least it has in some measure that effect here.

Coud you have Employd ten people I am perswaded they woud not have spoke to more men who upon other Occasions are ready to lend their money on Stocks &c. and still without effect, and what helps to keep all Bankers Back is that one of them who lives in the house that was Woodward has stoped payment, tho' when they can buy India Bonds at £3 disco^t and demand the money of the Company they make after the rate of 9 cp. per annum with the best security, and Navy Bills at 10 cp. Disc^t. &c. I do assure you had I the Cash none of these considerations should be inducing to obstruct my advancing it to you at lawfull Interest, but I am dubly unhappy in having mine Invested.

HUGH MARRIOTT to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Dec. 10. London.—I give you many thanks for your favour of the 7th. By the very false accounts you will perceive the News gave concerning the arrival of our Army at Northampton, you may see the value of a letter from the spot. It will be a singular satisfaction to me when you can continue me the favour of such. Rumours arise and are contradicted so very fast that I intend to trouble you with none. I will however let you know the truth of two matters about which I dare say you will be solicitous. The first is that I have it from very good hands and it is universally agreed that the young Person in the Tower is not the Pretender's son. The other is about the *Law Regiment* which I fully thought on Sunday noon to have inlisted myself as a private centinel before night. The fact was represented to me thus, viz: that all the Regular Forces were to go as yesterday with his Majesty to encamp on Finchley Common and therefore as the guarding of the rest of the Royal Family remaining at St. James' must at all events be left to undisciplined men, none would be so proper for the purpose as persons of Fortune and publick character, and that as we Counsell who signed the Association and address (Note—none in the Law of inferior Rank to Counsell were allow' to sign it) had thereby offered our persons and were a known and considerable body His Majesty had been asked whether he would accept our service for that purpose, and had been pleased to say he would be much satisfied to leave his family in so good hands and that in fact most of the Counsell fit to bear arms who were of note either in their profession or for their families or estates had agreed to it. In this Light it was so honourable and gallant a Duty that I should have been excessively pleased to undertake it. But when I went on the Sunday evening to the general meeting at the Middle Temple Hall, I found there the Lord Chief Justice Willes, it is true, talking very floridly and averring he was to have his Commission as Colonel of this Regiment as soon as we had agreed upon a name for it: but instead of the honourable company I expected, there were not, that my glass could bring to my eye, 20 Counsell in the room that either had £200 per annum estate or business to that amount. Not 6 Counsell of any eminence (not one of the King's Counsell) and very few Attorneys or Solicitors of note, but the Assembly (except some young gentlemen students) was chiefly composed of the very low sort of Practitioners, not without a mixture of clerks and hackney writers, which last our colonel was unwilling to take out of the Muster Roll, and declared if we excluded them he would form them into independent Companies, but all under attorneys and solicitors were at last excluded. You may believe I would not inlist under these circumstances, when by His Majesty's message to us it appeared the cause of thinking of it was over. In short it was a mere job to make ——— seem the head of the Law. Whether the truth got to Court or not I can't tell, but this morning the Colonel came in his Judge's habit and

acquainted the Assembly that Lord Harrington had (instead of his expected commission, for that I assure you he never had, and so now owned) wrote him a letter by the King's order to acquaint the Gentlemen of the Law (with very gracious acknowledgements of the offer of their service) that he had now received certain advice that the Enemy were retreating into Scotland and that with so much precipitation that it was not expected even Wades army could get up with them, and as by this change of affairs there was no occasion to draw the forces out to Finchley, he desired they would put themselves to no further expence (for the uniform was really making) till further intimation of his pleasure. . . . Thus ended this Project which promised so fairly and honourably at first, but by the impetuosity and selfintresstedness of ——— grew into such ridicule that few gentlemen who in the zeal of their hearts and on account of the apparent immediate necessity signed on Saturday (which was the day it began) knew what to do with themselves or how with honour to go either on with it or from it.

AMBROSE ISTED to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Dec. 10. Ecton.—I have just recd. the accounts I send you from Mr. Rogers. Since he wrote Mrs. Rogers writes to my sister that a great part of the Duke of Kingston's Light Horse are arrivid at Northampton, and mentions an Article which he had not heard before, viz. that the Chief Officers of the Rebels lay at Mr. Bingham's at Derby, and said there that they designed for North^hton on Friday morning. But one of their chiefs went off in the night as they imagined to betray them to the Duke, and that was the reason of their returning in such a Hurry. A warrant has come hither to the same purpose as that to Overstone, and I find that such have been sent to all the Towns round as far as Yardley.

I propose to set out early tomorrow for the Regiment.

DENISON CUMBERLAND* to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, Dec. 16. Stanwick,—Your news gave us great pleasure especially as it confirms a flying report we had here on Saturday from Leicester, that the Duke had demolished the rear of the Rebels and that they expected hourly to hear of their total destruction; which pray Heavens may be speedy and so general that not one, especially of their Chiefs, may escape.

S. GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745, December 28. Garraways—The News of the Queen of Hungary having Concluded a Peace with the King of Prussia gave new Life to our friends and is indeed an affair that may produce good consequences. He is a Man of Extraordinary

* Denison Cumberland (1705-1774), Rector of Stanwick and later Dean of St. Paul's. He was Bishop of Clonfert, 1763-1772, and Bishop of Kilmore, 1772-1774. His son was Richard Cumberland, the dramatist.

Capacity, has upwards of 100 Thousand men Excelent troops and he aims much at Glory, and I hope will forward a general Peace in Europe. God send he may or by degrees we shall all be undone. Several rich merchants (of fortune in goods and beyond the Seas) have been oblig'd to stop payment. The scarcity of money being such that there is none to be raised at any rate and if it continues I cannot point out which way the Publick will be furnishe^d with the vast sums they must require. The Rebels are gone towards Edinburgh and Hally appointed generalissimo. Shall not enter into Politicks because I don't understand them. All I can lerne as a looker on is that we are in for the whole winter at least, unless some unforeseen accident. Nothing doing in stock.

[REVD. NICHOLAS] LECHMERE to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745[-6], Jan, 14. [Warnford, near West Meon, Hants.]—The covers you was so kind as to frank are now near all used, and I would not presume to send you a fresh parcel without leave first obtained. I therefore beg a line or two to signify your pleasure herein. It is as I before told you the only amusement I have in a little country village consisting of Farmers only, and what I would be sorry to be without at any time, and especially at the present, which is the most critical that I can remember. I live about twelve miles from our coast between Chichester and Portsmouth, and it is impossible to express the terrors we have been in on account of the intended French invasion. Once in particular we had positive information that they were actually landing between Chichester and Arundel, the whole country was alarmed. Chichester-gates were shut and the People under arms, the same at Portsmouth, and several expresses actually sent up to London; when, Behold, the upshot of the whole affair was, some smuggling vessels landing their goods and a large party of armed smugglers on shore receiving them, which were taken for french troops just disembarkt. At the same time Admiral Vernon* with his fleet hovering over our coast, was at a distance interpreted to be a French squadron to cover their troops as they landed. I thank God we have by his good providence weathered the point so far, and I hope He will give such a blessing to the measures taken by the Government, as that they may defeat the machinations of our Enemys in all quarters. I heartily wish all happiness and prosperity to yself, my Lady and family.

JOYCE DRURY to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745-[6], Jan. 15. Colne.—I received your Letters and am very much concerned to hear that you have the gout so often. I sympathize with you. Since I wrote to you have had the gout very severe in my hands and feet, but thank God, I am better.

* Admiral Edward Vernon (1684-1757) created Admiral, 1745.

I fear the troublesome times wont be at an end soon, people this way have been very much frightened and hide their best effects. I desire you will send me a noat upon Mr. Owen for thirty pounds. I had rather have money then a Bank draught. I shall be glad to hear that you are well, with love to Lady Drury and the children.

SAMSON GIDEON to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745[-6], Jan. 23. London.—At a General Court of the Directors (of South Sea Stock) proposed $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. for the 6 months due at Xmas and a Ballot demanded in favour of 2 per cent. Should the latter be resolved upon there will remain still a sinking fund to discharge the small debts due for dividend warrants, &c.

The fatal Bad news wee received yesterday from the North of which the papers abounds as stop'd the rise of our funds and sunk peoples Spirits considerably. H.R.H. the Duke is going down, and hope he will recover our shame, but it is pety he should go without ten Thousand men that he may run no risque.

CHAMPION BRANFILL to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745[-6], Feb. 11. London.—We are in great Consternation. Yesterday the 2 Secretaries of State resigned. Lord Granville is appointed in the room of Lord Harrington, the other undisposed off. Too day Mr. Pelham, all the Admiralty, Lord Gower, Dukes of Richmund, Dorset, Devonshire, and too morrow the Chancellor and Attorney General, 'tis said the Attorney has refused the Seals as hath Willes; his Reason was he did not care to part with a certainty for a place of so small Duration, as every body imagines they must soon come in again the Body they went out. . . .

I congratulate you as to the Flight of the Rebels, people are now very easy as to them.

HUGH MARRIOTT to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745[-6], Feb. 11. Tooke's, near Chancery Lane.—I could not help acquainting you, lest other Correspondents should omit in this post that the whole Ministry you left in possession is or will be out before you receive this. D. of Newcastle and L^d Harrington resigned yesterday. L^d Cobham's men all go out in a lump. It is expected L^d Can^e will give up the Seal to morrow. His successor is not known, but most People say the Attorney General has refused that high office, that L^d Ch. I. Willes is to be the man, and Sir Thos. Bootle to succeed him. L^d Granville is to be the Head of the new Ministry. It is said L^d Bath is to be a Secretary of State, and L^d Sandys again Chancellor of the Excheq^{er}. I think I never even out of the North writ you any thing more surprizing.

CHAMPION BRANFILL to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745-[6], Feb. 13. London.—I wrote you last post of the great Revolutions in the Ministry. I now congratulate you on as speedy a Change to the Right as you were is the Word of Command all I hear is that everything is to be as it was. Lord Granville having continued sole Secretary for twenty-four hours the Secret History of the Affair I dont doubt you will have from better Hands. We have a Report of a Skirmish between some of the Rebels and some of our Troops to the loss of 400 of our Men but I know not the Truth.

HUGH MARRIOTT to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1745-[6], Feb. 15. Tooke's Court, near Chancery Lane.—Till 3 o'clock on Wednesday (the last day of Term) It continued to be thought a fixed thing that Lord Chancellor was to resign, as many persons of the first quality had then actually done. But about that time He was sent for to Court off the Bench and all the Resigners of the first rank (the whole number that agreed to stand by one another in resigning was about 45) were that night at Court. We were told It was then agreed that Lord Granville should go out and the whole Ministry should be again as it was the week before: and it is said that the Intended New Ministry had before then been in the City to see what money they could get advanced on the Supplies and could not get a Farthing. Thursday evening It was thought all were to go out again and there was at least this foundation for it that the papers of seals (which you know used to be published the last day of Term) was not come to the Registers office on Thursday Night. And it is publicly said that those who had contracted with the old ministry to advance the money on the supplies granted for this present year had been to beg to be off their Contracts. On Thursday night the Chief Ministers assembled again. The paper of Seals is since come out and It is now universally believed that Lord Chancellor is quite safe again (to our great joy), and that the Ministry is to be just as it was before the change my last informed you to be intended.

WM. LISTER to SIR THOMAS DRURY, M.P.

1745[-6], March 15. Wellingboro'.—In December last I had the misfortune to break a Bone in my Leg and to displace my ancle joynt attended with imminent danger from mortification for sometime, which renders me unable to ride, otherwise I would have waited on your honour, having been concerned in raising some young fellows for Mr. Isted's company now lying at Carlisle and Lancaster. Their indigent condition through sickness and hardships being very deplorable obliges me to compassionate their sufferings, and frequently to exhort them to patience and steadfastness forces me most humbly to petition your honour to grant me the favour of some Franks, &c.

HENRY FOX to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746, March 31.—A ‘whip’ to attend the House “Wednesday se’ennight, when his Majesty’s intentions with regard to foreign affairs will be opened and some opposition to what will be then proposed is expected.”

CHAMPION BRANFILL to MR. THOMAS DRURY.

1746, April 17. Inner Temple.— . . . the News mends on us and stocks rise. I was just now told that there is an Express arrived that on the Duke’s passing the Spey the rebels have actually fled and are dispersed. I wish it may be true; the Acc^t of another victory over the Spaniards and French by the Piedmontese and Austrians wants confirming. I believe we outdo you again in Hounds. Mr. Braund bought last Monday the widow Bennets (we have now 36 couple) who by the by has just been inoculated for the Smalls and is recovered, but has it very full in her Face, that Face which was the Admiration of one Sex and the envy of the other is no more.

CHAUNCY TOWNSEND* to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746, April 19.—I should most willingly give you the account why and who is together if in my power. The most I can make of it is all are together who have or can have places &c. for opposition seems to be only for and the only way to obtain their demands. Pitt seems the object and by what I hear the debate was not to the Question at all and but entirely personall and few spoke well, the best Mr. Leet† in behalf of the Question and his steady principles, blaming those who attempted so light and so mean a covering to the same last year, and those who now without new matter approved which last year disapproved.

HUGH MARRIOTT to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746, April 26. Tooke’s Court, near Chancery Lane.—My fingers have itched to make you some amends of comfort by saying something to you on His Royal Highnesses glorious success. But as the Posts have happen’d I perceiv’d the Gazettes w^{ld} bring you Everything authentick about it as soon and as particularly as you c^{ld} receive any account of it from me. I shall only add that the firing of the Tower Guns on Thursday seemed to me the loveliest musick I ever heard and that that evening had the most universal Illumination save from great part of the Scotch People of Distinction and some Commoners whose sentiments have always been pretty well known. As the Gazette will probally come out to-night too late for the Post it may be a satisfaction to you to know (as I can assure you from good hands)

*Chauncy Townsend, a merchant in Austin Friars, died 1770. He was father to Joseph Townsend, geologist.

†Probably George, afterwards Sir George, Lee, D.C.L., M.P. for Devizes, 1742-1747.

that another Express came in to-day with still better accounts of this great action but I have not particulars of credit enough to send you.

CHAMPION BRANFILL to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746, April 27. Inner Temple.—I presume you have heard before now of the entire Victory over the rebels, viz. 1,000 killed and 600 taken prisoners. L^d Kilmarnock, the Secretary and French Ambassador, are among the last. Our private Accounts make the number above as many again. They both agree that our loss exceeds not 130 killed and wounded. There is no mention of the Pretender's son. I reckon you will have a full account to-night in the Gazette. . . .

CHAUNCY TOWNSEND to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746, May.—Your favour of the 6th I received and if had answered it last post should have told you for a certainty that Pitt had not overcome, but hear today Pitt is to be Paymaster. Sir W^m. Yongue his Post and Fox the latter's, Arundell Sir J. H. Cottons, and Legg for one at the Treasury and one at the last gone at the Admiralty is what I don't hear who succeeds to. I am sorry, I fear I see this cuts Pellham's throat, for by this as in all late removes he gives into his Enemy's hands. I am much better but Mrs. Townsend has had a return of her fever very severe but now better in the Country. As to our Court Marshall tis unnamable a great Expense to come at nothing, they and the Court are the worst of a bad people.

WILLIAM HANBURY to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746, May 4. Harleston.—I congratulate you on the success of our arms. The affair is now I hope finished.

I desired Butterfield, Mr. Isted's servant, to acquaint you that George Briggs, late of his (now of Capt. Boisenegans) company, deserted from me at Lancaster, he is of Orlingbury. I wrote to Mr. Isted concerning him but find he is gone to Bath. I must therefore ask you to take him up and secure him in the County Gaol of Northampton.

I have herewith sent a printed pamphlet on the Clipston hospital. It is in a very good way, much to the satisfaction of the Visitor, and the Master has already 54 scholars, and is likely to have many more.

CHAMPION BRANFILL to SIR T. DRURY.

1746, May 29.—I take it that there must be something arthritic in the air, for all the gentlemen in the Neighbourhood are gouty, and their Horses are troubled with the same distemper. I am extreamely glad to hear you continue in good health and as a means to keep you so I am glad you write with some pleasure about your Hounds, for I am satisfied that altho'

Hunting will not cure the Gout, yet that it will prevent a man's being a cripple with it in his younger time, for I have observed that the sportsman let his fit be severe, yet he recovers his strength and has no sensible remains if another fit attacks him, but the sedentary and sauntering man doth not recover his strength after the fit, before he's laid up with another, and in a few years is rendered a helpless, miserable object.

HUGH MARRIOTT to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746, June 5. Tooke's Court, near Chancery Lane.—If you have a mind to put on solemnity indeed, Come up and be one of the managers; for it seems the Speaker insists so strongly that while the Parliament is sitting, the Rebel Lords must be tryed by Impeachment that a Court is at last to be erected in Westminster Hall to that purpose, though it was hoped the Nation might have been spared that great expense.

NATHANIEL NEAL to SIR THOS. DRURY.

1746, June 7. Million Bank.—We have had strong rumours of peace for several days, which have raised the Stocks, particularly French in India, but I am inclined to think the Commissions that have been lately sent hither from Holland for purchasing in those funds have been the chief occasion yet.

I presume you have heard Admiral Lestock* has been honourably acquitted by the Courts Marshall, and that he is soon to go to Sea with the command of a Fleet of Ships.

The secret Expedition for which the Troops were to have been embark'd at Portsmouth is now wholly laid aside. It is said that Admiral Martin† has block'd up the French fleet at Rochelle. The winter diversions as balls, plays, etc. are recommenced for the entertainment of the Prince of Hesse, but I suppose will not last above a week.

JAMES DOLLIFFE to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746, Oct. 15. Hockston.— . . . I am very much concerned to hear we have been defeated in Flanders, from which I fear very ill consequences and particularly that it may occasion the Dutch to explain their long misterious conduct by coming to an agreement with France upon the terms they will prescribe under a pretence that they are not in a condition to make any further resistance. If this should happen and we are not included in the accommodation how are we to act? And what are we to expect?

* Richard Lestock, 1679?—1746 (December). This Court Martial related to the action in the battle off Toulon, 1743 [-4].

† Admiral William Martin (1696?-1756) had succeeded Admiral Vernon in the chief command, December 1745.

CHARLES COE to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746[7], Jan. 16. Maldon.—As nothing in my opinion is a greater proof of Friendship than a free and generous Behaviour, I am obliged upon that Principle to tell Sir Thomas Drury the Result of a Meeting on Tuesday last of five Aldermen and eleven Common Council men with your humble Serv^t as the only means to secure the Whig Interest at this Borough, viz^t to support the joint Interest of Sir Rich^d. Lloyd and Robert Colebrooke, Esq^{re} at the next generall Election, and as I am never ashamed to assign the reasons of my Conduct, I will explain them and freely submitt them to your candid Judgment by my last I am persuaded you were satisfied that I was zealously disposed to prevent the Tories imposing Mr. Edmund Branston upon us at the next Election, tho' at the same time I, tho^t it quite unseasonable to come to a Nomination, notwithstanding I have been pressed hard by Gentlemen of very great figure. However as Mr. Bramston has not only rode the Country to Engage Votes, but made a personall application to all the Freemen inhabiting the Borough and as I am firmly perswaded some of the Tories have bragged that by this scheme they shall defeat the Coes, and as Sir Richard Lloyd has also made a very considerable Interest, the Whigs in Truth had no other Card to play in your Absence but to agree to this Junction, or let in a Friend of the Tories to break the Interest now and as a Naturall Consequence to be Master of the Corporation by another Parliament. I am sorry to tell you that everybody does not see the Bottom of this Contrivance so clearly as I wish they did, but as I have the most feasible Convictions of the Disguise I am obliged to join with the Corporation to support the nomination, and in this I hope you will not charge me with the lest Insinuation of Disrespect paid to your Character or Interest. Am sure I don't deserve such an accusation and had you appeared at the Sessions I would have shewn you my Regards.

JAMES BIRCH to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746[7], Feb. 13. Chere Brocke [Cherbourg], Normandy.—This comes to aQuaint you of my onhapey misforton. Been taken for to France by a Privout Teare from Saint Mallow cald the Prince De Country on the Seaventh of December and brought here. But I hope good Serr you will sone Release me from this Ineymys Contrey or elsse I shall dy. I have got my Peroll of Honer, and the Commisarey has rote to Parriss for me to be Returned for a Captⁿ of the Bockoncore of this plase Lately taken by the Porkeipine Man of War and carued in to plimouth his name is Capten Delamare of this Plase. So I hope good Ser, you will stand my Freind and Rite down to Plimouth for his Release and then I shall come home to serve you or your Intrast. he is at Tavistocke, and then I shall bee Bound to Pray for you all Days of my Life and will doe any thinge that Lyeth In my Power. I wold give you a Count of the afearis of this

contrey, but Duste not, for all Leaters are opend at Pariss. So
dear Sir I remaine your most humbell servant to command,

JAMES BIRCH, of Maldon.

WILLIAM SMITH (Bailiff) to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1746[-7], February 19. Overstone.—Sir, the Distemper amongst the Cattle is very little about us at present. The nearest I no of is Honington. Mr. Knight I hear has lost nineteen very lately and saved very few, the other farmers most of them had it some Time ago; I hear 'tis very much about Market Harborough, and by all accounts more Die than ever. I am informed that in some Parishes they Do not save two out of Twenty. Sir, in our markets Wheat sells from 3s. 4d. to 4s. per Bushell. Rie from 15s. to 17s. 6d. per Quarter. Barley from 12s. 6d. to 14s. per Quarter. Old Beans from 13s. to 14s. 6d. per Qr., and new Beans from 15s. to 17s. 6d. per Qr., and Oats from 8s. to 10s. 6d. per Qr. The price of Meat is something lower than it was. Beef and Mutton and Pork are from 2d. to 2½d. per lb. Veal that is good is 3d. and 3½d. per pound.

CHAMPION BRANFILL to THE SAME.

1750, Nov. 13. London.—(Has just come up from Upminster) We talk here of nothing but a Distemper which has got amongst the Horses every where I can hear of, nor can I find one that has missed it; they have violent coughs and most of them run prodigiously at the nose. We have ten in our stables all very ill, we have at present only let them blood and given them mash and warm water, but I call by and by on Dr. Tottergill for further advice.

P.S.—You see in the Papers an account of a Colonel's Commission from the Pretender, found in the repairing an old house. The Commission was to Holloway late Treasurer of Bedlam and Bridewell, and it is imagined the dread of being found out was the occasion of his shooting himself.

CHAMPION BRANFILL to THE SAME.

1750[-1], Jan. 29. London.—The sole conversation here is on the House of Commons ordering Mr. Crowle, Mr. Murray,* a brother of Lord Ellebank and one Gibson, an upholsterer, to attend them on Thursday, Crowle for protracting the scrutiny at the Westminster Election and boasting of it, calling the orders of the house *bruta fulmina*, Murray for interrupting the High Bailiff and using violent Threats, and the upholsterer for saying that the Small Debts Bill was passed on purpose to corrupt the High Bailiff; by the temper of the House yesterday it is sus-

* Honble. Alexander Murray, 4th son of 4th Lord Elbank (died 1777).

pected some of them will be sent to Newgate. I am told there are greater accusations against another person, but his name not mentioned.

EARL OF SUSSEX to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1758, Jan. 4. Euston.—I am informed that the parishioners of Bozeat are endeavouring to charge with the payment of levys to Bozeat, certain lands belonging to Caston which lay intermixed with the Bozeat lands. I would therefore beg the favour of you Sir that this affair may be postponed 'til I shall have an opportunity of getting my writings looked over, which I am informed will fully explain the matter.

JOHN HERVEY THURSBY to THE SAME.

1758, Jan. 18. Abingdon.—I find in 'Burn' under Title 'Highway' an act made in the 22nd of Charles 2nd, Section 7 c. 8, laying a penalty on the owner of any wagon etc. travelling on any Highway with above five Horses; carrying any other goods than wheat are therein excepted; also in the 7th and 8th of Wm. 3rd, Cap 29, Sect. 2 the penalties are particularly mentioned how to be disposed of. As a certain person, Tenant to a great man, has been lately very insolent to me, on account of my speaking in a most civill manner to his servant for so often coming along our roads with vast loads with six horses, am resolved to punish him if I can; which by that law (as I doe not find it is repealed) I can doe by a conviction on my own view. (Asks his opinion whether the Act may now be enforced.)

CHAMPION BRANFILL to THE SAME.

1758, Feb. 4. London—We have no news in Town, but that the Ministry draw together and some formidable Fleets are preparing for sea. Mr. Pitt is confined with the gout. Morton of Abingdon Aston and De Grey are called within the Bar—they took their seats yesterday. The World have made a match between the Duke of Bridgewater and the Duchess of Hamilton, which they say is to be soon. . . . Should this match take place and she bear him a son, she will have the only parsley Bed from whence two Dukes have been dug. . . .

CHAMPION BRANFILL to THE SAME.

1758, Feb. 18. London.—I am very glad to hear that you can by any means lessen the Force of the Gout, that you may continue so to do is in my opinion the greatest Blessing I can wish you. I have steered quite clear this Winter, and I don't know what to impute it to unless it be the severity of last Winter's Attack. I drink as little Tea and Port Wine as I can, of neither of which I can entertain any great opinion. I suppose you have by this time seen the Account from India, notwithstanding which, I hear that our Officers will not allow that

either the King of Prussia or Clive know anything of Military Affairs. I am told he will get for his own share (I mean Coll. Clive) above £300,000, that he has sent by the sloop that brought this Account £40,000, ten of which he has ordered to be distributed between three Sisters grown up, that he shall send his Wife home by the Tyger with £120,000, and the rest he will bring himself. I hear too that on Monday the Bill for extending the Habeas Corpus is to be moved, and that Sir John Glynné is to move to repeal the Septennial Bill. . . . You see that His Majesty put his hand into the wrong pocket for an Essex Sheriff, he first pulled out Smart Lethuillier, but on applying to the right pocket he has found one Mr. Hennekar, who has bought the Estate of the Dyers about Dunmow. . . .

WILLIAM STRONG to SIR THOMAS DRURY.

1758, March 23. Peterborough.—I take the first opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your favour and am very sorry upon several Accounts that I am under the necessity of joining with the Rest of the Proprietors in opposing your Petition, but beg you will be assured as the truth really is that it proceeds from ye full conviction we are all under of the great injury and injustice which would be done us by such an Act as is proposed to be obtained. And I am persuaded that you would have put a stop to this Scheme of draining your Lands if we could have had an opportunity of waiting upon you, to have shown the unreasonableness of it.

The ancient and proper way of draining your Lands, Mr. Askham's and the Rest is by Fenton Load and from the end of Fenton Load next Chatteris by a 20 foot drain made for that very purpose by the Corporation of Bedford Level into another Drain which carries the Waters to Slade Load and so into the 40 foot. The mills upon your Lands have always thrown into Fenton Load and your Lands been embanked from any other outfall which is nearer to sea by 3 or 4 miles than any other way.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PAPERS.

Part 2.— [1737]-1765.

THE PRIVATE LETTERS OF JOHN 2ND EARL OF
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, TO HIS AUNT, HENRIETTA COUNTESS
OF SUFFOLK, AND OTHERS.

N.D. [1737-1767.]—"The Late QUEEN'S* CONVERSATION with
LADY SUFFOLK, upon her leaving Court."† [In 1734.]

LADY SUFFOLK: Madam, I believe your Majesty thinks I have more assurance than ever any body had, to stay so long in your family after the publick marks the King has given me of his displeasure. What occasioned my not waiting sooner upon your Majesty you will not think was owing to assurance. I have ever had, and hope I have ever shown it, the greatest duty and attention to everything that relates to you, and I could not think it proper whilst you were indisposed to trouble you with anything regarding me. I come now, Madam, to beg leave to retire.

QUEEN: You surprise me, what do you mean? I don't believe the King is angry. How has he shown his displeasure? Did I receive you as if you were under mine?

LADY S.: No, Madam, if your Majesty had treated me in the same manner the King did, I could never again have appear'd in your presence.

QUEEN: Child, you dream. Why, I saw the King speak to you.

LADY S.: Yes, Madam, but those few words more sensibly mark'd his displeasure than his silence either before or since.

QUEEN.: Tell me, has the King really never been down with you since your return?

LADY S.: No, Madam.

QUEEN: Upon my word I did not know it.

LADY S.: Will your Majesty give me leave to tell you what has past. (M.T.W.?)

QUEEN: I hope you take nothing ill of me. I would have seen you.

* Caroline of Anspach, d. 1737.

† This paper is endorsed by Lady Castlereagh:—"This was taken down by my father [John 2nd Earl of Buckinghamshire] from Lady Suffolk's relation." Lady Suffolk died July, 1767.

LADY S. : Your Majesty did.

Q. : Come, my dear Lady Suffolk, you are very warm, but believe me, I am your friend, your best friend. You don't know a Court.

S. : I am very sensible I do not, and feel at this time a most convincing proof of that ignorance. But I fear, Madam, if I have not acquir'd knowledge in twenty years I never shall now.

Q. : Why don't you talk to your friends? Indeed you cannot judge this for yourself. I always do so.

S. : If twenty years' service has not been able to defend me from falling a sacrifice to my enemys, would your Majesty have me, by calling in my friends, make them answerable for the measures I may take and involve them in my ruin?

Q. : Child, they are your enemys who want to get you out, and they will be the first to drop you. Oh, my dear Lady S., you do not know how differently, when you are out, people will behave.

S. : Madam, the first part of what you say I am very sure of, but really I do not understand the second, and that some people may show me it was the Courtier and not me that was liked, I cannot say that the keeping of such acquaintance will be an inducement to keep me at Court. Surely, Madam, such are better lost.

Q. : You are very warm.

LADY S. : Madam, I beg that if in talking to your Majesty I use any word that does not mark the greatest respect to the King, you will be pleas'd to tell me, for I come fully determined to take my leave with the same respect, submission and duty, with which I have behav'd for twenty years. Your Majesty has often told me that I have never fail'd in anything for your service in either of those places you have honour'd me with, and indeed, Madam, I don't know how far your Majesty may think it respectfull to make this declaration but I beg it may be permitted me for a moment to speak of the King as of a man only who was my friend. He has been dearer to me than my own brother, so, Madam, as a friend I feel resentment at being ill-treated and sorrow to have lost his friendship, but as my King and master, I have the greatest submission to his pleasure, yet I wish I knew of what I am accus'd, tho' I know my innocence, as it must be some horrid crime.

Q. : Oh, fie! You commit a crime! Don't talk so.

S. : Madam, as I know his Majesty's justice and his warmth of friendship, I know he could not for anything less punish me so severely.

Q. : Lady Suffolk, I daresay if you will have a little patience the King will treat you as he do's the other Lady's, and I suppose that would satisfy you.

LADY S. : No, Madam.

Q. : Why, did you never see him show what you call Resentment to the Duchess of Richmond and Lady Albemarle?

Lady S. : Madam, I believe those ladys have more merit than I, and in every respect of greater consequence, but this case is very different; they have not lived twenty years conversing with

his Majesty every day, nor had the same reason to think themselves honor'd with his friendship, nor has it been in his power to give so publick or remarkable instance of his displeasure to them. Consider, Madam, I have been absent seven weeks, return sooner than was proper for my health to do my duty in my place to your Majesty, and to show my respect to him upon his Birthday.

Q.: I heard when you was at the Bath that you did not design to come back, but I did not mind such reports.

LADY S.: I heard, too, Madam, that I was not to come back, for my business was done at Court; but I knew that I had a Mistress who had often told me that she was perfectly satisfyd with my services. I knew that I had a King and a Master and a friend whom I could not, nor ever will, suspect of any injustice, who would not punish me without I was guilty, and I know, Madam, I have done nothing, but still these reports must make me think his Majesty's publick neglect could not escape any of the standers-by, and I knew it was remarkd to my Brother* who came on Thursday morning and asked if it was true that the King had taken no notice of me since my return from Bath.

Q.: Well, Child, you know the King leaves it to me. I will answer for it, that all will be as well with you as with any of the Lady's, and I am sure you cannot leave my service then.

LADY S.: Really, Madam, I don't see any possibility of my continuing in it. I have lost what was dearer to me than anything in the world. I am to be upon the foot of the Duchess of Richmond and Lady Albemarle, so by the public thought to be forgiven some great offence, because I have been your servant twenty years. No! Madam! I never will be forgiven an offence I have not committed.

Q.: You won't be forgiven! This is indeed the '*Great Horse*.'† Why, I am forgiven!

LADY S.: Madam, your Majesty and I cannot be named together. It's a play of words for your Majesty, but a serious thing for me.

Q.: Why, Child, I am the King's subject as well as you.

LADY S.: Madam, what I mean is that I cannot make your Majesty understand without you will be pleas'd to lay aside the Queen and to put yourself in my place. After five and twenty years to be ill-treated without knowing my crime and then to stay upon the foot of Lady Albemarle.

Q.: Upon my word, Lady S., you don't consider what the world will say. For God's sake, consider your character. You leave me because the King will not be more particular to you than to others.

LADY S.: Madam, as to my character the world must have settled that long ago, whether just or unjust. But, Madam, I believe I have never been suspected of betraying his Majesty, or of having done anything dishonest by any person whatsoever, and I

* John Hobart, 1st Earl of Buckinghamshire, d. 1756.

† "To be on the high horse"?

defy my greatest enemy (your Majesty owns I have such) to prove anything against me, and I cannot nor will not, submit to anything which may make that believ'd of me.

Q.: Oh, fie, Lady Suffolk, this is a very fine notion, a principle out of 'Clelia' or of some other Romance.

LADY S.: This may not be a Court principle, but I believe it is a just one and a proper one for me to have.

Q.: I will send you down one. Come, you love figures! Let me persuade you 2-3. Go down think of this (*sic*). There are people who want you out of Court, and they will be the first to drop you.

LADY S.: Madam, I consult nobody in this, there is no occasion.

Q.: But you cannot judge for yourself. Let me prevail, put yourself in somebody's hands and let them act for you. Indeed you are too warm. You are not fit to act for yourself.

LADY S.: (Repeated the same as before.)

Q.: No, indeed very respectfull; but you will repent it. I cannot give you leave to go.

LADY S.: When anybody can feel what I have and be so entirely me, as to be the only sufferer for the advice they give, I might follow the method your Majesty proposes, but as that is impossible I must beg leave to act for myself. I wish I might know what I have been accused of. It is in my absence that I have been ruined in his Majesty's favour. At the Bath I had a thousand witnesses to my behaviour. I know my own innocence. Nobody dares tell me that to their knowledge I have ever fail'd in my duty in any manner.

Q.: You are a very great Horse! Not dare to tell you you have been guilty!

LADY S.: No, Madam; for the Princess your daughter could justify my behaviour; Lord C——g, and many more. What I meant was no regard to myself that I cannot think any wretch so abandon'd to all shame as to stand in it, having the falsehood (pardon the word) shown them by such a number as was there.

Q.: Pray, Lady S., how did you live at the Bath?

LADY S.: (Here I told all. Who B. dined, and what happen'd to L^d. B.) No party's distinguish'd two to one (*sic*).

Q.: Lady S., pray consider! Be calm!

LADY S.: Madam, I beg your permission to retire; indeed Madam I have not slept since I came into your house, and believe I never shall under this suspicion of guilt. Madam, will you give me leave to mention my observation, and not think me impertinent? I am sure by your looks when I assert my innocence that your Majesty knows of what I am accus'd.

Q.: Oh, oh! Lady S. you want to get it out of me.

LADY S.: Madam, I do want to stand the accusation. I am not afraid. I know it would be to the confusion of my accusers.

Q.: I will not give you leave to go. I tell you plainly if you go to-day you go without my consent.

LADY S.: Madam, I beg you would reflect upon my unhappy situation. I own that after what past that the next time I saw his Majesty I should have dropt down if I had not gone out.

Q.: Well, Lady Suffolk. Will you refuse me this? Stay a week longer. Won't you stay a week at my request?

LADY S.: Yes, Madam, I will obey you, but as I am under his Majesty's Displeasure you will not expect my attendance, or that I come again to receive your commands.

Q.: Yes, I do, and I will see you again. Be sure you come again.

LADY S.: I will obey your Majesty.

Q.: Harkye, Lady Suffolk. You will come up as you used to do.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK
[his Aunt].

[1756.]—The Purchase money for the estate in Buckinghamshire, as far as we can judge, was about £35,000. Mr. Bristow says Lord Buckingham's^{*} affairs are not yet settled enough to form a judgment of them exactly, but do's not seem to expect any money.

By my accounts from Norwich the Election will probably go there to my wish.† As the Duke of Newcastle has not been so explicate with regard to my affairs as I could wish, I wrote a letter to him yesterday in the afternoon, of which the following sentence was the principal part.

'I cannot possibly acquiesce under the Lieutenancys of Norfolk being given to another person, and I shall think any *favour your Grace may please to bestow upon a Norwich man during the time that this affair is pendent a breach of that friendship with which you have flatter'd me.*'

My behaviour at Kensington the other day was, I believe, very exactly what you advis'd. I was at the Levée yesterday, and the King was pleas'd to notice me. He enquir'd the day before as particularly into my affairs as you could have done. Lady Yarmouth receiv'd me with the greatest politeness. The Duke of Newcastle wrote me word before he saw me that he had laid my request in relation to the Lieutenancy before the King on Monday last. I wish I could be sure that he had represented it in the strong light in which I put it to him, or indeed mentioned it at all. George set out this morning at 1 o'clock for Cornwall. Lady Buckingham and Mr. Bristow‡ continue making the strongest professions that everything shall be settled to my satisfaction.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.§

1762, Dec. 27. Moscow.—I am extremely sorry to hear from Lady Buckingham that you have had a return of that most disagreeable complaint, the gout in your eyes, but hope before this reaches them they will be well enough recover'd to make out

* The 1st Earl of Buckinghamshire died Sept., 1756.

† Harbord Harbord was elected for Norwich Dec., 1756.

‡ John 1st Earl of Buckinghamshire married Elizabeth Bristow as his second wife.

§ The Earl of Buckinghamshire was appointed Ambassador to Russia July, 1762.

this scrawl. Poor George,* who has for a long time been extremely out of spirits, is convinc'd that this climate will not agree with him and is therefore determin'd to ask leave to return to England. He has in every instance behav'd as well to me as possible, and would not now think of it without my approbation. As yet no mention has been made of it to Government, but the object of this letter is to desire your Ladyship (if you have no objection to it, and the plan should be agreeable to Col. Hotham) to use your interest with Lord Bute that he may succeed my brother.† I could not write to him myself as it was impossible for me to judge of Colonel Hotham's disposition, and was I to wait for an answer from him it would be near five months from the date of this letter before Lord Bute could receive my application.

I have just heard that the Address was voted in the House of Lords *nem. con.*, which gives me very great satisfaction, as I do most sincerely wish that all the animositys which the newspapers are full of may subside, as far as the nature of England may admit of it.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1763, March 7. Moscow.— . . . Her Imperial Majesty‡ permitted me to attend her at the Court Manège, and I had the honour of seeing her ride. She was dresst in man's cloaths and it really is not flattery to say that few men ride better. She gave me leave some months ago to write to England for some horses for her and it is a great mortification to me not to have as yet received any answer from Col. Johnston to a letter I wrote to him upon that subject. My situation here grows every day more agreeable, as the Russians begin to treat me less upon the footing of a stranger than they treat the other foreigners. It is not that I believe my acquaintance with them will answer any particular purpose, but it contributes to my amusements and it certainly can be no disadvantage to a minister to be upon an easy footing with the people of distinction of that country where he resides. In a letter I yesterday received from Lady Buckingham she was pleased to depreciate the valuable presents I sent you and quotes Mr. Woranzow's§ authority. I shall not soon be guilty of such another act of extravagance.

I wait with great impatience for answers to letters I sent long since to England; all my packets by some mismanagement are sent round by Sweden, which makes a fortnight difference in the correspondence. The merchants have letters of the 1st of February from London. My last were dated the 19th of January. . . .

* George Hobart, afterwards 3rd Earl of Buckinghamshire.

† As Secretary to the Embassy at Moscow.

‡ Catherine II.

§ Alexander Romanovitch Woronzow, Russian Ambassador at St. James', 1762-1763.

You will have heard from Lady Buckingham that the Empress returns in May to Petersburg. I shall rejoice at it upon many accounts, though the neighbourhood of Moscow must be excessively pleasant in summer. As yet everything is cover'd with snow. The river has the appearance of a Broad Street and on Sunday is covered with thousands of people who resort there to see Sledge races and Boxing Matches.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to HANS STANLEY.

1763, March 28. Moscow.—I may regret my not hearing from you, lament your silence and expect a letter from you with an anxious degree of impatience. But believe me no delay of that sort can ever alter my feelings for my friend, or make me doubt of his partiality for me. Let me thank you for your account of the situation of the Great Man, and for your observations in consequence, which I am convinced are just. Your determination with regard to your remaining in the Admiralty unless you are offer'd an essential advance appears to me becoming of you.

It was generally suppos'd here, and the French Minister encourag'd those suppositions, that some difficultys having arisen in the conclusion of the definitive Treaty, you had been sent from England to settle them, as being much more Master of the subject than the Duke of Bedford. You need not doubt of the letter to M. d'Alembert being the Empress' own composition. I will to-morrow acquaint her, as nearly as I am able to render the expression in French, with your opinion of it. . . .

Were you at Moscow you would prefer the Empress to every woman in the country, take her for all in all, tho' many of them are handsome and some very agreeable. In some of the Russian houses I am received not quite upon the footing of a stranger, but in every country it is a misfortune not to speak the language. You mention nothing of the Club, yet let me hope that it flourishes, and that the Evergreens vegetate around the genial Board. Remind them of their old Servant, whose next wish to that primary consideration of renewing the sacramental engagements on Friday night is to find himself with them on Saturday.

P.S.—You may have a most excellent lining of the Astracan lamb for about twenty pounds. Any of the others would be either excessively dear or very cumbersome.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1763, April 13. Moscow.—Before this letter is finished George will be set out, his carriages and Horses are all nearly ready. At this moment he embraces his wife in thought and gallops an imaginary horse upon a visionary England. I send away a Courier to-morrow so that he will bring nothing from me but a repetition of my good wishes for you and a more regular account of what I am doing than it will be easy for you to trace in these

rhapsodies, my letters. With this I send you a silver medal of the Empress. It is very like her and finely executed, the air of the face is in my opinion rather older than hers. You will also find a superficial, vague account of this country,* which I drew up for your amusement; I should be sorry to have it known here that anything of that sort had been sent by me. On Tuesday evening I had an entertainment at my house, nearly of the same kind with that which I mentioned in my former letters. The company was rather more numerous, but the Empress, who had given me leave to hope that she would come, was prevented by a violent headach. Upon the whole it passed off well and would have been thought a handsome entertainment in most countries. My uxorious Chaplain returns with my uxorious brother. I hope Erskine has not as much to confess to his wife as George with an indifferent memory could tell to his. Many of their sins have lodged at my door, but now they are removed I shall at least have the comfort to think that my virtue will be vindicated. If Colonel Hotham had no other reason for declining coming into this country but the state of his health it would be all-sufficient; this is no climate for a weak constitution. By the account you give me of the letters you have wrote to me, three are still wanting, and I should suppose the three last, though that is not sure, as I often receive a latter dated in January a fortnight after one dated in February. In a letter I wrote to Lord Bute upon the subject of the Secretary to the Embassy, I mentioned my wish that if Colonel Hotham did not come nobody might be sent whose connections being different from mine might make my situation here disagreeable. In a letter which I propose to send to his Lordship by this courier, I shall rather insinuate a desire that nobody may be sent at all. . . .

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1763, June 10. Petersburg.— . . . The Merchants' Newspapers (they always receive theirs a fortnight before me) mention that Col. Hotham is re-elected for St Ives without opposition. I wish to write both to him and Mr. Praed† upon the occasion, but am fearful until I have better authority than the Chronicle I see another article in the same paper which affects me very differently—the account of the most melancholy accident which has befallen Lady Molesworth and her family.‡ Such a calamity could not have fallen where it was less merited or where the consequences were more to be regretted. Life in general is a trifle, half of those who covet it, who grasp it most, can scarcely tell you why, but an amiable mother, with beautiful, engaging children, whose merit promised them many agreeable days, cut off at once—the idea is shocking, even to me, who do not think existence of very great importance.

* See for this 'Buckinghamshire Correspondence,' Vol. II., p. 283.

† Humphrey Mackworth Praed.

‡ A disastrous fire. (See Annual Register for this year, p. 75.)

Many are the unpleasant sensations which offer themselves to me upon that which is the present state of affairs in England. The first and strongest (to you I need not dissemble) is my concern for my gracious Master, and the reflection upon the uneasiness he must at this time feel, and which surely he has so little deserved. If there is a man, who from private interest or private spleen has raised this storm, may sorrow, disgrace and infamy attend him.* I have left many of my most intimate acquaintance at Moscow and find myself very much alone, though it is a very cheerful, very well furnished house. Some of them return with the Court, but the greatest part of them obtained leave to absent themselves for a year.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1763, July 12. Petersburg.— Lady Buckingham mentions her concern at your going to Marble Hill in the cold weather, but I will not dwell upon that, as I recollect my having reproved you for it in my very last letter. The Empress made her Publick entry on Saturday last. Fireworks were played off upon the River in consequence. They were very fine, but as it is now light here during the whole twenty-four hours, it greatly took off from their effect.

The weather has been so sultry for the last fortnight as to produce that state of relaxation which puts everybody out of humour and indeed disqualifies them for every sort of enjoyment, but that of drinking cool liquors and swallowing quantities of ice. One might imagine now that it never would be cold again, but probably within six weeks we shall have convincing proof to the contrary. In the account I sent you of my house I omitted to mention the quantities of fine china which adorn it, and consequently a circumstance which may possibly make you peevish—that in several instances very fine old Japan Jarrs have been cut and broke in order to make them fit the places. George sent me a letter from Berlin, containing several articles of news which he had read in the English papers, but not mentioning one word of the King of Prussia, his subjects or his dominions.

I have long expected a letter from Mr. Grenville,† till he writes it will not become me to trouble him again. He is certainly involved in very perplexing business, yet I am apt to believe he has disposed of some of his time in the last three months as unprofitably as in noticing me. Here I am and must expect to remain till next summer. What is to be next, I know not. Let it come in its own good day!

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1763, July 18. Petersburg.— Lady Buckingham in one of her last letters informed me that Lord Hallifax had

* The prosecution of Wilkes began on the 30th April, 1763. *Ld. Bute* resigned 8th April.

† George Grenville.

mention'd to her his having deliver'd the medal to the King, and speaking of her, let me thank you for your care as well as for the obliging solicitude you express upon her account. I am glad that Lady Harriet* meets with your approbation and that Mrs. Harriet approves of me. It distresses me to hear so melancholy an account of Lady Waldegrave. She has had no small share of my affection ever since her humane behaviour to Col. Johnston upon Lady Charlotte's death. . . . A few weeks ago I received a very particular and I believe a very true account of the political transactions of the last winter, the Person whose picture you draw† is mentioned in it and not greatly to his honor, he may be happy in himself and great in his own conceit, but I never knew the man whose connection I should so much wish to avoid. How he ever came to be in that rank in which he is plac'd is a wonder that it will cost me some time to get over. Every man who is the least cast into publick life wishes to be in some sort distinguish'd, yet I sometimes flatter myself that I have virtue enough if once I could see Government settled at Home agreeably to him who has a right to be pleas'd and upon that firm basis which may make England as respectable in peace as it has lately been in war to sit down contented with such a situation as may be allotted to me.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1763, July 22. Petersburg.— . . . The Empress goes into the Country to-morrow, but I alas am left in town, yet the gales of the Neva refresh me and the passing bark delights my eye. I won't think you ill, because your letters are not mathematically correct; if you were to judge of health by writing, what a habit of body should I be in? You say not one word to me of Marble Hill, of Mr. Chetwynd, Mr. Walpole, Lady Blandford, and Mr. Cambridge, nor the least hint of the latter's opinion upon the case of Wilks and Secretarys; he must have been very ingenious, very busy, and ultimately a little tiresome upon that copious subject

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1763, Aug. 9. Petersburg.—I condole with you upon the death of poor Mr. Barlow, who was certainly a complaisant, inoffensive neighbour. Lady Buckingham writes me word that you are in good spirits, why indeed should you be otherwise? You act up to what your morality and your Religion tells you is right; the consciousness of that must make every occasional discomposure, every ailment which the frail nature of Man is liable to, of little import. I sometimes am a little deficient in faith upon matters of Religion, and more frequently of patience (or indurance, shall I call it?) in the affairs of this world; we must correct ourselves,

* His daughter. Mrs. Harriet was his niece, a daughter of Col. and Lady Dorothy Hotham.

† See Lady Suffolk's Letters, Vol. II., p. 275.

we must try to amend even constitutional errors—I was born with a disposition to doubt and to fret—original punishment for any sins I could probably commit. I could wish you would let me know if you received a letter I wrote from Moscow in relation to my returning to England etc., and in general if you have an opportunity of mentioning what I then desir'd you. Lady Buckingham informs me that Lady Dorothy has depatriated, and has retired into the North, loaded with receipts for to make marmalade, White Pot, Tanzy, Wet-your-whistles, Merry Downs, Firmity and Almanzanis; and that in order to have everything well regulated she has sent Nancy before and left her slippers behind You don't mention Mr. Walpole, but I hope you see him often as his company must be agreeable to you. Do I pay a compliment to your taste when I take it for granted that you prefer your Western to your Eastern Beau. The latter is the more assiduous querist, yet I think I shall have more pleasure in preventing the former's questions than in answering his.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1763, Aug. 31. Petersburg.—The Empress has most graciously received two English horses which she had permitted me to send for; when she bestrides one of these English horses with a French feather in her hat she carries the feather, but the Horse carries her. Which will have the greatest influence, horse or feather, the carrier or the carried? Answer, for you know your sex. Perhaps you may wish to know my opinion and to prevent your wishes, tho' it is treating a political point, I will say that in general I should give it for the feather, but in this instance I hope and believe the horse will win. Her Imperial Majesty really made me very happy yesterday in expressing how much she was pleased with them. The present she ordered to be made to my servants amounted to ninety pounds English. I am sorry that publick affairs in England are not tending to a system something nearer unanimity. It is a subject neither agreeable nor proper to be entered into, especially in my very uninformed situation. Yet I could wish some of my old friends would recollect a sentence of Lord Bacon, quoted by Lord Haverham in the House of Lords in the year 1704. 'Let men beware how they neglect or suffer matters of trouble to be prepared, for no man can forbid the sparks that may set all on fire.' I long to see your Spittle Fields weaver, Mr. Giles, in a dry summer, it will not cost him much to cover his Lawn with green watered Tabby. Compliments to Mr. Chetwynd, to Mr. Walpole, to Lady Blandford, Lady Denbigh and Mrs. Harriet.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1763, Sept. 13. Petersburg.—I find myself so much fatigued this morning with dancing last night with the Maids of Honour, that it is with difficulty I can undergo the fatigue of writing. Is

not - this very much the stile an Ambassador should write in? But you must know that here the most venerable personages dance, that in Russia it would not appear extraordinary if Lord Ligonier led up a Polish dance, and Lord Henley and Lord Hardwicke quivered their fantastic toe to the tune of 'Buttered Pease.' The youth Buckingham however did not dance yesterday sufficiently to fatigue him, but as amusements are rare, he seizes all that offer, and perhaps it might be better for his friends and for himself if he danced more and wrote less. I hardly know how to take up again the subject, in which I was unfortunately interrupted the last post, the amours of the Marchioness of Blandford, and yet upon my word, the reflections which my regard for her suggest to me, have more than once broken my rest. That she will marry Count Woronzow, I no more doubt than that in consequence she will change her Religion, and attend him some few years hence to his mother country. You will therefore permit to make what certainly is far from an improbable supposition that she is at this moment his wife; and in that idea I should wish to convey through your channel to our common friend some advice which her husband's tenderness and delicacy for her will not in these early days when love is young and desires are new permit him to hint to her. She must learn Russ, eat mushrooms fryd in rape oil and pickled cucumbers in Lent; she must forget to courtesy and learn to bow, she must wear red without measure, dance Polish dances, and drink Chisterskij, Quash and Burton Ale, the nature of the two first her dear man will inform her of, the last she will know is the produce of England.

I hope tho' other countrys complain of the incessant rain, that the Marble Hill harvest has been fortunate, at the worst I comfort myself with thinking that you would cheerfully give up your prospect of wheat and barley for a green Meadow and a full River. . . .

THE EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE TO LADY SUFFOLK.

1763, Sep. 23. Petersburg.— . . . Your connection with so many of his friends and relations must have made you take a sensible part with them in the loss they sustained by Lord Egremont's death. I am not a little impatient to hear who is to succeed him as Secretary of State. My letters only inform me that Mr. Pitt has absolutely declined the most gracious offers which were personally made him upon this occasion. There is a report that Sir Joseph Yorke is leaving the Hague, and that he is to be employ'd at home, if that should be the case no destination would make me more happy than being appointed to succeed him. I have mentioned in a former letter that I had wrote to entreat His Majesty's permission to return next spring, as by that time I flatter myself that the principal objects of my mission will be decided.

I had not heard a great while from Col. Hotham, but received a letter to-day seemingly wrote in great spirits, he appears very

happy in a clear air, moderate exercise and a cheerful circle of friends and relations. I never could find out a satisfactory reason for it but undoubtedly the Country gentlemen live much more agreeably in the Northern parts of England than any of the others. I have been there very little as yet, but possibly some years hence may make the tour of Yorkshire and Durham in a Family Coach creeping on at the reverent rate of thirty miles a day.

1763, Sep.—1765, Jan.—A small bundle of private letters between the Earl of Sandwich and the Earl of Buckinghamshire are of no public interest.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1763. Oct. 11. Petersburg.— . . . As no fresh scandal has lately reach'd me in relation to Lady Blandford and Count Woronzow, I am to take it for granted that either that affair is totally broke off or else so generally understood to be concluded as to be no longer the subject of conversation. You are always so properly upon the reserve that it will be difficult for me to draw any of the most interesting particulars from you, but I fancy at my return, between the Duchess of Argyle, Lady Denbigh, Lady Litchfield and Lady Seebright, I shall be acquainted at least with all that has passed. I hope however to hear something from you upon this and other important events when Michael returns, whom I expect every hour . . .

It is probable that I shall have His Majesty's permission to leave this country about the end of next May, in which case I shall be in England some time in July.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1763, Nov. 4. Petersburg.— . . . It is with some difficulty that I contrive to be cheerfull, partly owing to my having no opportunity of taking my accustomed exercise. It is a secret that I trust with you when I tell you that the only person here with whom I can possibly converse with any degree of confidence, that is to say, my secretary, is the most disagreeable, illiterate, underbred, wretch in the Universe. I am forced to do almost everything myself, tho' I pay him two hundred pounds per an. which is full double the usual stipend. He was recommended to me by Mr. Grenville at my own request, who said at the same time that he knew little of him except that he had been employed a short time at Warsaw. You will easily see the reasons which with the assistance of a little humanity have determined me to keep him during the term of my residence here. Two obligations I must confess I have to him, the one that he gives me a good deal of employment, the other that he properly humbles me with regard to my own performances, for that author must be very conceited indeed who could be vain of his works after having heard them

read by him. I am sorry to hear my Cousin Hampden^{*} has lost her lover, his will administered some consolation to her upon reflection, but I will do the justice to her good nature to believe that it did not diminish the just tribute of regret she owed him Not one word more of politicks except to enquire who you interest yourself for in the future election of the King of Poland. The libertys of that antient state cannot be in danger, as all the constables in the neighbourhood are hurrying together to preserve them. There is no surer way to prevent a Riot than by knocking those down first who might otherwise make it. The voters in Poland are rather more numerous than at St. Ives, otherwise I am convinced that the Election is as like the other tho' in minature as a Sprat is to a Herring. . . .

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1763, Nov. 11. Petersburg.—Were it not for the information which I occasionally receive from that chaos of truth and falsehood, which composes the English newspapers, I should return to London as much a stranger to the customs, manners, ideas, and passions of my countrymen as well as to the names, merits, and qualifications of those eminent personages, who are distinguished by the applause of their fellow subjects upon the great theater of London, as if I had never seen my Lord Mayor, Nelly O'Brien, the Lions, Mr. Wilkes, or the Monument. Great and interesting intelligence I receive from the *Gazetteer*, the *Chronicle*, etc. Miss Elliot, Mr. Shuter, and Mr. Woodward exhibit at Covent Garden; Miss Pope, Mrs. Yates, and a nameless promising young gentleman display their merit at Drury Lane, some account is also given of the audience. Lord Granby was seen in a side box with Mr. Wilkes and the Rev^d. Mr. Churchill, to the great satisfaction of the Pitt and Gallery. I have but lately heard of the consequences of those two worthy gentlemen who were placed so near my noble friend, they must therefore excuse me if I think they were most highly honoured in his company. I shall always, were it only in gratitude for former amusements, interest myself for the Theaters Royal. But there is another theater, other actors and other scenes nearly opening, an accurate description of which I am still more solicitous to receive. Is the season to begin with a Tragedy or a Comedy? If the former I hope the fifth act will be over before my return to England, and that I shall find all my friends laughing at the farce. . . .

I had destined my maiden widow cousin to the other Mr. Childe, but he is otherwise dispos'd, and therefore I think she may as well stay for me, for if any accident should befall poor Lady Buckingham, my cousin will certainly be young enough and sufficiently handsome for your ever affec^{ate} Nephew.

* Maria Constantia, only daughter to Robert Trevor, who had assumed the name of Hampden, and became in 1776 Viscount Hampden. Her lover's name was Child. (See Lady Suffolk's Letters, Vol. II. p. 281.)

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, Jan. 29. Petersburg.— . . . Amongst all the attempts which I have hitherto made to render my little Gazettes not totally uninteresting to you, I do not recollect having said anything of Count Orlov,* tho' a person who acts no inconsiderable part in the scene which is now before me. His appearance is noble and full as handsome as is consistent with a manly and rather athletic figure. His manner is surprisingly affable and easy, allowing for his most sudden rise to greatness and that excess of most obsequious adulation which is necessarily paid to his situation. In his early days when he had no great prospect of advancement he distinguished himself for his attachment to Her present Majesty, tho' her favor was not at that time the channel for preferment. He has not forgot his former state, and said to me lately, "*Autrefois je me promenais beaucoup par nécessité; à cette heure, je me trouve Grand Seigneur et je roule en carosse.*"

His Sovereign considers him as ever watchfull over her safety and ready to lay down his life for her service. She has a pleasure each day in shewing him new marks of her favor. Her delight is to see him great. It is said and I believe with truth that he does not interfere in foreign affairs. The accounts which you send me of the altercations and animosity between the Grenvilles really give great uneasiness. It is the restless ambition of the eldest that has greatly contributed to the present publick and private feuds, yet surely at times when he is neither passion's nor indiscretion's slave, he is a well-intentioned, an amiable and very good humor'd man. My compliments to Mrs. Harriet, and desire her to attend to her French and her Dancing, as I probably before we meet shall have forgot my English, and am determin'd upon my return to dance the first minuet with her. . . .

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, Feb. 7. Petersburg.—I receiv'd yesterday a letter from Lady Buckingham, in which she gives an account of your health, which is by no means agreeable to me. . . .

I believe it was mention'd in my last that I was invited to a Russian wedding. I was present at all the ceremonys of the day and some of those of the night, but the whole was conducted with so much dignity and solemnity that it were in vain to attempt making the description of it entertaining without deviating from the truth. I was admitted to the bride's toilet whilst she was dressing, she was in her stays, and several of her relations, women of the first distinction, were employ'd in adjusting her different ornaments. The toilet finish'd, the Company in about twenty coaches and six attended her to Court. Just before we set out the mother of the bride ordered us all to be seated and the doors of the room to be shut, as a prognostick of the future

* Grigori Grigorievitch Orlov, Catherine the Second's favourite.

tranquillity of the new marry'd couple, but unfortunately a child of the family who was offended at the prospects being intercepted, burst out into a most violent fit of roaring, which seem'd to me a much apter emblem of what might hereafter insue. Arrived at the Palace the bride was introduced to the Empress, who with her own hands ornamented her with the Crown jewels and pinn'd them on her tresses. The bride then proceeded to the Chappel, where the impatient bridegroom waited. He was crowned and she was crowned, he walk'd round the altar and she walk'd round the altar, he laugh'd and she cry'd. In the course of the ceremony the bride drop't her wedding ring, which, as a bad omen, gave great uneasiness to her mother. We then went home with them, sat down to a supper of sixty covers, undress'd the bride, who kiss'd every jewel of the Empress separately. We then kiss'd her and retir'd. . . .

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, March 23. Petersburg.—Just as I was beginning to write to you, I have received some letters from England by which I am not a little sorry to find that your health is not as yet re-establish'd, yet it may be hop'd that the approaching warm weather and a great deal of air and exercise, the best of all physicks, will have put an end to your complaints time enough for me to find you perfectly well at my return to England, whenever it shall happen.

The Russian spring is begun, that is to say, it freezes all night and thaws all day. Early in the morning you travel upon ice, but all the rest of the day the streets are canals. I know not what to make of my country by the accounts I receive of it, perhaps when I return my country will not know what to make of me, the Individual and the General in some respects resemble, they are both passionate, both capricious, and both unhappy. It is ridiculous what a trifling circumstance will sometimes influence my temper for a whole day. You will tell me it ought not, which is just what I tell myself, but our united remonstrances will have no effect. Don't you find by the disjointed sentences which compose these pages, the attempts at an idea which with difficulty stumble to the end of the period, that I am at this moment most delightfully dull? Indeed I cannot help it. Nature wants a fillip, but know not when it may be had. I often think of what Fontenelle, dying at the age of a hundred, said to his physician, who asked him if he felt any pain, '*Je sens le mal d'être.*'

A fair lady was telling me my fortune last night, and informed me that I should live to be very old, "*Mais que cela ne'n vaudroit pas la peine, comme je deviendrois hypocondre et goutteux.*" *Voilà un bel horoscope!* . . .

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, March 30. Petersburg.— . . . By the great discretion and prudence with which my correspondents express themselves, I really believe that the method of proceeding

against Mr. Wilkes has had a very bad effect, for they write as if they expected a Messenger every minute. The Russian Minister in England is not half so prudent, he writes and comments in a very free style, and I am once a week regularly mortified in not having it in my power to assert whether the marvels which he advances are true or false. I have this moment received letters from L^d Barrington and Col. Hotham, which give me a satisfactory account of some late transactions, and also one from Lady Buckingham, in which she mentions her fears in relation to the inoculation of her child. Why don't you govern her better? But I flatter myself it will all be over before you receive this. By the accounts given me of the moral Society in Albemarle Street, their existence cannot be of very long duration. Tho' it ought to be otherwise, and I am confident you wish it should, a little spirited vice is necessary to keep frail men together. I am not sorry that young ladys who engage themselves warmly in politicks should be taken with a little yellow jaundice. A comfortable time the poor Senator would have indeed, if after twelve Hours melancholy Parliamentary attendance, instead of finding at home some agreeable relaxation from more amusing and what is frequently as important dialogue, he is to be treated with a hash of the debates of the day introduced in a shrill voice.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE TO LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, April 27. Petersburg.—You will easily imagine that I wait with some degree of impatience to hear from Mr. Grenville, though it is rather in respect to my future views than my thinking there is any great probability of my staying here more than two months longer. Three posts are now due since I received Lady Buckinghamshire's letter, in which she mentioned mine of the 28th February. I feel every day more and more that the Russians are sensible of the pains I have taken to contribute to their amusement and grateful for the desire I have shewn to oblige them. It is at present my intention to have only two balls more, as though now we freeze with only sixteen hours sun, the weather will soon be too hot for such sort of amusements. The Assemblies on Tuesdays and Saturdays I shall continue as long as I stay here. The river has got loose from the ice and so far my prospect is improved, but bleak and most ungenial are the gales which waft the snow across it. The very concise summer of Petersburg will begin in about a month. What we call three seasons are in great measure united here—Spring, Summer and Autumn when the weather is particularly favourable will together make nearly four months. The vegetation of such things as will vegetate in such a soil and such a climate is performed almost with magick celerity, and reminds me of what in my early days I have seen exhibited by the dexterity of an ingenious artist, who produced a tree which budded, blossomed, bore ripe fruit, and withered in less than ten minutes. The depth of winter to those who can endure cold is the finest season, excellent roads, and a clear air which sharpens the appetite and enlivens the animal

spirits. Lady Buckingham's letters overflow with her sensibility of your goodness to her and her child; not being able to say enough upon the occasion, I shall desire you only to put a candid conjecture upon my feelings. . . .

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, May 11. Petersburg.— . . . I am most particularly concerned that Mr. Grenville should have any reason to doubt of my taking the first opportunity to pay the proper acknowledgements for his kind attention to my wishes. Three Maids of Honour were marry'd on Sunday last. The foreign ministers were present and supped with them at the Palace that and the following evening. As two of the brides are my particular favourites and one my relation, I am tolerably well acquainted even with the most secret transactions which passed upon the occasion; but it would not edify you greatly to receive a detail of events so like many events which have happened before. . . . It is a usage established from old times in Russia that the nearest relations of the bride and bridegroom after they are put to bed remain in the next room, and after a certain time—the length of which occasionally differs—the new-married couple pay them a visit and eat and drink with them. . . . You think this idle stuff, but you like I should write often and I like to write to you, and the unavoidable consequence of our two likings must be just such stuff as this. . . . I have a great deal to do, am in a hurry and very hungry. Must not your nephew at this moment be a most amiable existence?

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, May 28. Petersburg.— . . . The Empress and many of my acquaintance who attend have been in the country for some time and we have very little reason to expect to see more of the Court at Petersburg this summer, which will necessarily interrupt amusements and what is almost of as much consequence delay any business which I may have to transact. In another week I possibly may alter my opinion, but at present there appears to me a great probability of my being detained here another winter. Whenever I return it will give me great pleasure to see Lady Suffolk and my family. As to any other circumstances which may attend me I have no very favourable opinion of them. I am offered a little place in the country about a Marble Hill distance from Petersburg, where probably I may wander for a few days, but my Town House will be my chief residence as more agreeable than any country situation in this neighbourhood.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, June 8. Petersburg.— . . . I told Lady Buckingham in my last letter but one that I intended to give some prizes to be rowed for upon the King's birthday, and now I will tell you

that they absolutely were rowed for. There were nine barges, seven of twelve and two of ten oars. Count Orloff's barge won the first heat, but lost the second and third, which were won by a boat belonging to the *Corps de Cadets*, a sort of Academy where all the young people of distinction are prepared for the Army and Navy. Count Orloff's barge won the second prize and the Hetman's the third. The day was fine and upon the whole everything went off to my satisfaction. . . .

I never depended much upon Townshend's friendship, but it has proved lighter in the scale than even I expected. You know too much of the world not to be sensible that *everything considered* it is impossible for any cordiality to subsist between Mr. Harbord and myself unless we act politically together. . . .

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, June 18. Petersburg.—I imagined to have sent you by this courier some positive account of myself, but my situation is in appearance as uncertain as every human event is in effect, yet it matters not much to me nor should it in effect to anybody. I cannot help thinking myself of that stock of men who will ever be most respected by their friends when in absence. Some of mine I will believe frequently recollect my desire to act in every instance with honour and humanity, my anxiety to please and oblige, my wish to contribute to their ease and amusement, without recollecting that absence of mind, that captiousness, that gloom contracted by an unfortunate disposition ever to ruminate on the dark side of my own story, which make me often a melancholy and sometimes a disagreeable companion.

It seems to me that I have lived long and that most of my days have passed as tediously as unprofitably. Necessity might have made your nephew good for something, but indolence and dissipation have ever prevented me from any useful application except when immediately call'd upon. In reviewing my past life and judging my actions by the loose rules of worldly morality I have neither done anything very wrong or very right. One unfortunate disposition, which I believe I picked from my nurse, has principally shaded my conduct; guess it if you can, I am tired of my own reflections and undoubtedly so are you.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, July 3. Petersburg.— . . . The Empress went last week to Cronstadt to view her fleet. It is an island situated in the Gulf of Finland about 15 miles from hence and is properly speaking the fort of Petersburg. During her stay here she made everyone happy who had the honour of attending her, and you will be flattered to hear she was particularly gracious to your nephew. When she went to dine on board the Admiral she took me with only three other persons in her barge. When she returned to Petersburg I was the only foreigner who was admitted into her yacht. The wind failing, she got into her barge and

permitted me to attend her. When she arrived over against my house she told me that she knew I had no coach at the Palace, she would set me down at my own door. The next day though not a Court day I thought it incumbent upon me to appear at the Palace and to desire the Vice Chancellor to acquaint H.I.M. that I was there to express my sensibility of her goodness to me. He brought me for answer, "*Que S.M. était extrêmement contente de mes attentions et que comme ma conduite était telle qu'elle m'envisageait plutôt comme un compatriote que comme un étranger, elle me priaît de dîner avec elle.*"

She set out on Sunday evening for Riga. She told me she should be absent three weeks. Just before her departure Count Orlov carried me into her private apartment that I might have an opportunity of making my Compliments to her. You will show this only to those who love me well enough not to laugh at any little vanity which may appear in the relation. Lady Buckingham writes me word that Mr. Grenville assured her I should hear from him very soon. It would really be a satisfaction to me if he could find leisure to send me a few lines. I very much approve of Lord Tavistock's marriage.* You may make compliments from me which are truly sincere to the Lady's family. Notwithstanding a person is fixed upon to succeed me at this Court, I cannot flatter myself with the hopes of seeing you sooner than Christmas.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, July 10. Petersburg.—There is no person but yourself to whom I can talk with confidence upon my situation, and therefore you must in some sort excuse my explaining to you some circumstances which give me great uneasiness. Your ladyship knows full well that Mr. Grenville is the only friend I can in the least depend upon in the present Administration. Lord Halifax has no longer any regard for me, and tho' Lord Sandwich ever since he came into office has behaved to me with the greatest civility and attention, I have no right to expect any particular support from his Lordship, the Duke of Bedford and Lord Holland. The manner in which His Majesty is pleased to recall me, leaving me at liberty with regard to the time, is most gracious, and I should have been thoroughly satisfy'd with it had not Mr. Grenville's silence upon that occasion most sensibly mortified me. I hardly dare tell you in my present temper how very little pleasure I promise myself in returning to England. Your Ladyship and Lady Buckingham will be glad to see me. I cannot answer for many more. . . . My Norfolk history sets heaviest upon me, and the thought that I must never expect to pass a cheerful day at Blickling. Lord Walpole, who tho' a worthy man, must from his connections ever act in opposition to me on the one side, and Mr. Harbord, who has taken the opportunity of absence to desert the man who essentially hurt himself

* To Lady Elizabeth Keppel.

to serve him, on the other ; I will, however, leave a door open for reconciliation as long as possible. I always doubted of General Townshend's real regard for me, he has been upon many occasions lavish in his professions of friendship, but ever avoided entering into any engagements relative to the affairs of Norfolk. As I have ever acted an open and candid part by him I had a right to make use of him if I could. Of that which he has acted I have no great reason to complain, tho' some circumstances which attended it will not be so easily forgot. The history of the receivers' place at Norwich is another unpleasant consequence of my being abroad as well as a further reason for my not wishing myself at home. Now I have said this much my heart is lighter, and upon reviewing my history bad as it is and drawn with a discontented pencil it does not absolutely amount to tragedy. Notwithstanding any peevish aversion I may have taken to England and the inordinate affection I have conceived for Russia, yet were it not for the hope that from a little delay I may return with more credit, I should humbly entreat that Mr. Macartney* might set out immediately.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1764, July 31. Petersburg.—It is in the garden of the Summer Palace, a most pleasant and cheerful retirement, in which I pass three of four hours every morning, when my leisure will admit of it, that this letter is wrote. It is the third or fourth which might have been dated from thence, but at the other times it did not occur to me to mention the scene which stood before me. The garden is laid out in the old English, or rather in the Italian stile, shady walks, marble statues and fountains innumerable. The Palace is at one end, and a Terras which commands a very fine view of the river on the other. Distant thunder, dark clouds, and screaming Peacocks prepare me to expect a storm, but I shall write on in perfect tranquillity till the first drops reach me. Whether it is a change of temper, or the effect of advancing further in life, I know not, but I every day find that I contemplate every kind of storm with increasing tranquillity, or if any emotion arises it is more from general humanity, or particular regard to individuals than from my own fears or feelings.

Since my last I have past another four and twenty hours at Count Rosamowski's, and I return'd as before, with contrition to Ministerial conference and the consequences.

The Empress is expected this evening at Peterhoff, about twenty miles from hence, which I equally rejoice at both in my publick and private capacity, as I have sensibly felt in both the difference of her absence. Col. Hotham desires me at my return to England to bring a picture of her, but perhaps he will find a stronger resemblance than any I can obtain in Lady Dy. Clavering. Her Imp. Maj. is fairer and not so tall. I hear much of the new pavement, but am persuaded that is not the only alteration I shall experience in England, and tho' I may

* George Macartney, afterwards Sir George, and later Lord Macartney.

find it easier to glide along (Albemarle?) Street, yet there are other paths in which once I trod with pleasure, where should I venture to range I might meet rivals who would with reason mock at my stale pretensions. If I find you in health, and three or four, who, after three years' absence, I still esteem my friends, glad to see me, my reception in England will be equal to my wishes whenever I shall be in a situation to meet it.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, August 17. Petersburg.— . . . When you hear of my balls and assemblies and entertainments you must imagine my hours not only pass cheerfully but riotously gay, yet some day or other you shall learn how flimsy are my pleasures and how real my anxieties. I have often complained of the slender information with which my friends in England favour me, but never with the tenth part of the reason which I have now, in that, except deaths and marriages, I know nothing of my own country and am never able to contradict any idle report which the flippancy of a Gazette writer or the real or willfull misinformation of a foreign Minister prompts him to propagate. I am tempted to tear this paper as the contents may tease you without availing me. Yet you are the only person to whom I fully open my heart and the only one who loves me in the manner I most wish to be loved. Of this sort however you shall never receive any more letters from me, and if facts must be mentioned they shall be mentioned without comments. . . .

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, Aug. 24.—(Complains of his own extremes in disposition.)

“I have lately had some letters from England. Lady Buckingham's are full of her sensibility of your goodness to her. Though she does not own it, I am persuaded you make her more than amends for the absence of her husband. Mr. Grenville has not as yet favoured me with a line, but I flatter myself daily with the hopes of hearing from him. He has certainly many most interesting occupations, but a letter is soon wrote.” . . .

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1764, Sept. 7.—(Trivial recollections of his childhood.)

“Many, many thanks for your most kind letter which I have just receiv'd. I will upon the whole in obedience to your commands^c make myself as easy as I can and confide in the good intentions of my friends. I have no other dissatisfaction in relation to Mr. Harbord but his having taken the opportunity of my absence to change his political conduct.”

* See Lady Suffolk to Earl of Buckinghamshire of 9 August, 1764. (Lady Suffolk's Letters, Vol. II., p. 239.)

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, Oct. 2. Petersburg.—By a letter I have lately received from Lord Sandwich Mr. Macartney will probably have left England before this arrives there. As soon as ever that gentleman comes to Petersburg I shall ask for my audience of leave, so that in all probability it will not now be many months before I embrace my good Aunt in Savile Row. It is very difficult to guess how long the journey will take me in that inclement season in which I am destined to travel. If, however, the sledge way is good, as I hope it will be, at the time I set out the first half-way will soon be despatched. The winter is already beginning, the Russians have got on their furs, but I remain in my autumn cloaths; if I took the same precautions they do I should not be able to live and dress like other people in England, as it is you will find me grown exceedingly chilly. Though it is not properly the subject of private correspondence I cannot help saying a little to you in relation to Mirovitz, a gentleman of whom lately you must have heard a great deal. He was a man of most profligate and debauched character, though since his rash attempt he has been devout to a degree of fanaticism. During his confinement and trial, and even at his execution, he behaved with the most becoming resolution. He acknowledged his errors and declared his readiness by laying down his life with the greatest resignation to atone for them. He owned he was informed of the incapacity of the unfortunate Prince* which excited him still more to the attempt, as had he succeeded he meant to govern through him. What seemed most to affect him was the punishment the unhappy soldiers were to suffer whom he had seduced. The particulars of the event were most theatrical, but not of a nature to give me pleasure to write or you to read. Let me till we meet guard you against the reports which the ill-natured, the prejudiced, the designing most assiduously propagate, lest you should censure those who from their feelings are greatly more the objects of compassion. The Empress since her return from Riga has been almost constantly in the country, where she saw very few people but those about her; now she is returned Petersburg will be the gayer. Yesterday there was a ball, as it was the Grand Duke's birthday. The nobility and foreign ministers supped with him, but the Empress retired early.

. . . Mirovitz's design was known only to two or three persons of no consequence.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1764, Oct. 17. Petersburg.—In about six weeks I am to leave a country where I have now spent two years, and whatever pleasure a man may promise himself in breathing the air of his native soil and renewing his antient connections, yet the approach of a moment when you are to take an eternal leave of those with whom you have lived in an agreeable familiarity and

* Ivan, 1740-1764, the Infant Czar of 1740-1741.

a state of mutual benevolence, cannot but be painful to a feeling mind. The unwearied pains I have taken, the difficultys I have submitted to, and the unpleasant moments I have passed in order to attain my purpose makes the assertion that no foreigner ever lived upon that footing which I now do in Russia, scarcely liable to the censure of vanity. My situation has improved by degrees, but it is only within these few months that I have been quite satisfied with it, to which the gracious distinctions which the sovereign has condescended to shew me have not a little contributed. What welcome I shall meet with in England except from my own family seems to me rather uncertain, as from the extreme negligence with which my friends have corresponded with me, I almost suspect I shall find myself a little upon the footing of a stranger. . . . So many alterations have happen'd in the interior of England that even at the best a new man cannot avoid some disagreeable embarassments. . . .

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, Oct. 25. Petersburg.—Je vous écris si souvent que cela ne manquera pas de vous excéder. Cependant je fais mon devoir, je me livre à mon inclination; prenez patience, madame! Mercredi passé, le jour de nom du Comte Orloff, il donna bal à l'Impératrice. L'ambassadeur l'Angleterre eut l'honneur d'en être, et ne fut pas peu flatté, tant de s'y trouver l'unique étranger que de l'accueil gracieux que la souveraine lui fit. Nulle gêne, nulle contrainte, la soirée se passa agréablement au possible. Après souper, toute la compagnie sans exception, commença une danse polonoise. Nous n'étions pas tous du même âge, il s'y trouvait une fille d'honneur de 13 ans, et le Maréchal Münnich qui approche de 84. Ce bon vieillard dont l'attachement respectueux pour le beau sexe donnerait un air de brusquerie à la tendre galanterie de notre cher Ligonier disait l'autre jour, en entendant raisonner sur la beauté, qu'il n'avait jamais vu de femme qui ne lui paraissait belle.

Un cas assez extraordinaire est arrivé ici et fait depuis quelques jours le sujet des raisonnements sages et frivoles de Petersbourg. La semaine passée, un soldat des gardes à cheval se maria. La cérémonie finie, on offrit du vin à la compagnie, tout le monde en prit, l'épouse excepté, car telle est la modestie des filles Russes, que le jour de leurs noces elles ne veulent absolument rien prendre avant de se mettre au lit. Huit personnes donc prirent de ce vin, et un quart d'heure après six des dix s'avisèrent de jeter des éclats de rire des plus extraordinaires. En suite ils tombèrent en convulsions qui durèrent assez long tems. Le lendemain à la même heure mêmes éclats de rire, mêmes convulsions et cela durait encore le septième jour, quand l'Impératrice en fut informée. Les medécins en conséquence se sont assemblés en corps. On délibère encore sur les causes de ce phénomène, et quand on m'en dira quelque chose peutêtre je vous le communiquerai. . . .

L'envoie Turc. doit avoir son audience publique ce matin et les dames travaillent furiensement à la toilette, quoique les Turcs sont des Mussulmans, ils sont aussi hommes, et il faut tâcher de leur plaire. C'est comme cela que pensent les femmes Russes, je crois que les Anglaises agiraient à peu près de même.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1764, Nov. 20. Petersburg.—“Not with a Highwayman, you sorry Slut!’ says Mrs. Pechum to Miss Polly when after the discovery of her marriage with the seducing Captain she sweetly sings, ‘Can love be controlled by advice?’ Extraordinary as my letters usually are, the beginning of this will still surprise you, till you know that I am just informed that the sister of the M. of R. and the niece of the E. of W. has thrown herself into the arms of her Irish footman. As the lady is a full-grown child and has probably made her reflections the footman is the proper object of compassion. It is most amazing to me that the numberless instances of ruinous and disgraceful matches should not suggest some serious reflections to parents and guardians, and introduce a different mode of education. Yet what expedients can avail? How can you preserve and protect your child when the physician who feels her pulse, the surgeon who breathes (*sic*) the vein, every person whose profession or talents are essential to improve her, the footman who carries the flambeau, and even the sprightly ostler, who expeditiously harnesses two miserable hacks to a post chaise are equally dangerous. . . .

Your extensive notions of liberty and the high prerogatives of the female world are well known to me and in a degree merit approbation, but will you not allow me to confine the daughters when I give it as my opinion that the mothers ought to know no controul—a doctrine which I preach by example. Mr. Prior says, “Clap your padlock on your mind.” Agreed! But then there must be a mind to fix it on. If you fasten your padlock upon a sap of green wood can you expect it to hold? It may be said, Why should not young women have opportunitys of looking round the world, of seeing variety of men, of sifting their characters and choosing him whom their inclinations favour and their judgment approves? Because for obvious, if indeed for excusable reasons, nineteen times in twenty they will choose wrong. . . .

EXTRACT from a Small BUNDLE of PRIVATE LETTERS exchanged between the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, PRINCE BELASELSKI, and BARON CHERKASOW.

From the BARON CHERKASOW.

1765, February 15.—‘Après d’exactes recherches j’ai trouvé que ce n’est pas ici la coutume ordinaire de donner de portraits, et que le dernier fut donné en conséquence d’une demande

formelle,* et autant que j'en sais, vous n'en avez point fait. Mais vous pouvez comter que jamais ministre étranger n'a été aussi généralement estimé pendant son séjour ni autant regretté à son départ que vous. Vous avez vu la vérité de la première réflexion et je vais garantir celle de la seconde. On voit dans toutes les maisons des portraits de M. de Cappelmann, que l'on a décorés des quadres dorés à votre intention. Mais ce n'est rien. On vous tient pour un parfaitement honnête homme. Et c'est quelque chose.

Mardi le 1-12 de ce mois, l'on a représenté chez le Grand Chambellan 'Le Philosophe marié et les Mœurs du Tems.' Les acteurs et les actrices furent applaudis et avec beaucoup de raison.

La Countesse Cheremeteff l'ainée et le Prince Belaselsky ont eu particulièrement mon approbation. Le Comte Cheremeteff, le Comte Orloff (Grégoire) le Comte Golowin, Monsieur Passek et ma femme m'ont chargé de vous présenter leurs complimens.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LADY SUFFOLK.

1765, Feb. 21. Koningsberg Brandenburg.—This letter will be sent you from Berlin, tho' probably without any addition to what is wrote this evening from the fair city of Koningsberg. I address'd Lady Buckingham yesterday and now it is my disposition to address you. If I delighted in repetitions or was lazily disposed, the copy of my letter to her with only the change of the date, would be an exact account of the transactions of the day and of my situation in the evening, two little circumstances excepted, that I have travelled without a tilt and am not within hearing of a crying child. It cannot but affect everyone who has a feeling heart, to trace the cruel effect of the war upon these unfortunate countries through which I am passing; ruined villages, large and well-built towns absolutely depopulated are objects which continually meet the eye. I have suffered greatly all this day from cold and warm winds, the first came from the South, the most piercing I ever experienced from that quarter, the latter was a kind of subscription gale, for which I was obliged to the footman and the man who drove my cart. You know the Russians were long in possession of Pomerania, they have left their mark everywhere, but since the new connection between the Courts of Berlin and Petersburg, the unfortunate remains of the inhabitants are forbid throwing out any reflections of their calamities. A postmaster however ventured yesterday to whisper me that the Russians had given him the knout for sending intelligence to the King his master; he was near dying under the hands of the executioner, and has never recovered his health since. But why should I distress your humanity with melancholy ideas?—I have just burst out into an inordinate fit of laughter and I will tell you why—By way of a cheerful subject I was about to talk of the wild beast in

* This refers to the Empress' portrait.

Languedoc who eats virgins *par préférence*. Now if the existence of that gentleman is not fabulous, and his feats are really true, the story is extraordinary but by no means comical.

I am refreshing myself at an old Burgomaster's, and whilst a room is warming for me, I have taken possession of his private apartment. He has very much the air of an old Dutch soldier that came over with King William, and he interrupts me every moment to talk of the events of the War of Succession and of other antient stories in most abominable Latin, to which I answer in rather worse. For example — 'Excellentissime Domine, si bene mimini serenissimus Orangea Princeps Angliam invasit Anno salutis 1689. Ego e contra, '1688.' But I forget that you don't understand Latin. It is ten thousand pities. You may however intreat Lady Betty Germaine to explain the meaning of those few words to you.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PAPERS.

PART 3.—1762-1765.

Papers relating to POLAND and COURLAND, with MR. WROUGHTON'S
LETTERS.

Traduction du POLONAIS d'une LETTRE à un AMI
du 6 Novembre, 1762.

Pour satisfaire votre curiosité sur les vraies causes et les principales circonstances de ce qui vient d'arriver à Varsovie, il faut prendre les choses d'un peu plus haut.

Au commencement du mois d'Août le Comte de Brühl a écrit au prince Zartoryski, palatin de Russie, qui alors se trouvait à la campagne, que le Roi souhaitait de sçavoir son sentiment sur la manière de remplir les grandes places alors vacantes.

Dans le principe que le meilleur moyen de rendre un pays heureux est d'en remplir les charges de gens vertueux et capables, le prince palatin proposa le pisarz de Lithuanie Oginski pour palatin de Wilna, son beau frère le cadet Brzortouski pour petit

Général de Lithuanie, le palatin d'Inowraclaw, Zamoycki, pour vice-chancelier de la Couronne, le palatin de Mecistaw, Plater, pour vice-chancelier de Lithuanie. Le Comte de Bruhl répondit que le Roi avait vu la lettre du prince palatin avec plaisir. Malgré cette expression favorable, de jour en jour on apprenait que les recherches du prince Radziwil, Miecznik de Lithuanie, et du palatin de Polock, Sapieha, gagnaient plus de terrain et la voix publique assure que Radziwil a employé pour cela 60,000 ducats et Sapieha 30,000. Quoique vous n'êtes pas Lithuanois je crois cependant que vous scaviés que la loi donne au Palatin de Wilna le droit de légaliser le légitimité d'élection de chaque député ou juge au tribunal souverain de Lithuanie, de façon que quand le Palatin de Wilna est un homme violent et injuste, il dépend de lui de composer le tribunal presque à son grès de gens qui lui sont dévoués. Tout le Royaume savait des injustices et des meurtres qui se sont commis sous la protection et même par les membres de ces tribunaux de la faction de Radziwil du vivant du défunt Prince Radziwil, que sera-ce à présent que la charge du palatin de Wilna est entre les mains de son fils?—dont on connaît le caractère et qui trouvait que son père le contraignait encore trop dans les persécutions sanguinaires qu'il exerçait dès lors contre tout ce qui n'était pas aveuglément soumis à ses volontés.

Il était du devoir des bons patriotes d'empêcher que la Lithuanie ne tombât entre pareilles mains. Pour contrebalancer l'argent du prince Radziwil le seul moyen que les princes Czartorycki crurent efficace fut de faire avertir le Comte de Bruhl que s'il donnait le palatinat de Wilna à Radziwil, ils seraient obligés de lui faire contester dans la Chambre des Nonces, la noblesse Polonaise.

Néanmoins le Palatinat et le petit généralat furent donnés à Radziwil et à Sapieha. Bruhl passa outre par deux raisons, la première parcequ'il s'imagina que les Czartorycki se laisseraient intimider par les satellites de Radziwil armés de pistolets et de cuirasses sous leurs habits, dont il a rempli la Chambre des Nonces, la seconde parcequ'il crut que les Czartorycki désireraient de faire élire un Maréchal de la Diète pour que Zamoycki peut devenir Vice-Chancelier, parceque selon l'esprit de la loi les sceaux ne peuvent être donnés qu'après un maréchal élu. Effectivement cette première raison fit que les Czartorycki n'éclatèrent pas le premier jour de la diète pour laisser encore du tems à tous ceux qui travaillaient pour Zamoycki, mais ce même jour-là au matin pendant que le Roi de sa bouche assurait le grand général Branicki qu'il donnerait le sceau à Zamoycki, Miecznik, Maréchal de la Cour, dit à Zamoycki même, " Vous ne pouvez monsieur estre chancelier car le Roy m'a déclaré il y a trois jours qu'il veut que je le sois, moi," et le soir lorsque le grand général en vertu de ce que le Roi avait dit le matin demanda la patente de chancelier signé Zamoycki, Bruhl la lui refusa net. Alors voyant qu'il n'y avait plus d'apparence de faire avoir le sceau à ce digne et vertueux Zamoycki que toute la nation désirait pour chancelier, et qu'il y'avait tout à craindre que si le Maréchal

le devenait, la Pologne ne fut sous le joug comme la Lithuanie, les Czartorycki se déterminèrent à parler. Enfin le second jour de la diette le Stolnik de Lithuanie* dit dans la Chambre des Nonces, que ne pouvant connaître le C^{te} de Bruhl pour Polonais, il ne pouvait malgré tous les égards et l'amitié qu'il lui portait personnellement le laisser voter pour l'élection du Maréchal de la Diète. Apparemment on n'avait pas de bonnes raisons à lui apporter, car à ces mots, au lieu de répondre de paroles, les sabres tirés par des partisans de Radziwil qui se trouvaient les plus voisins du jeune Comte de Bruhl dans la Chambre des Nonces donnèrent le signal à tous les autres. S'il était possible de douter de la vérité notoire et publique de quel côté on a dégainé le premier, la meilleure preuve se trouve dans un billet d'un ami de Bruhl écrit par un reste d'ancienne amitié, ou pour effrayer les Czartorycki, où il leur a mandé la veille de ce jour que si on parlait contre Bruhl dans la Chambre des Nonces, on s'exposerait au plus grand danger. Le même soir Szymakourki rompit la diète pour empêcher qu'on ne débattît plus cette matière incommode à Bruhl.

La preuve que cet homme a agi par instigation de ce ministre c'est que six semaines auparavant lorsqu'il fut élu nonce, le Maréchal Miecznik voulut l'engager à céder sa nonciature à un autre homme dont le Maréchal Miecznik et Bruhl se croyaient plus sûrs pour rompre la diète. Mais Szymakourki s'offrit à faire également cette fonction, pourvu qu'on le paya bien comme on a fait, à quoi on a ajouté tout récemment un consentement de cession ce qui est une grâce royale. Voilà l'exacte vérité des faits. Bruhl attribue à faux aux Czartorycki un mot vis-à-vis du Roy—'Tout ou rien!' Ils ne l'ont jamais dit ni pu dire, premièrement ils n'ont pas pu employer ce terme parceque jamais on n'a voulu leur promettre positivement même aucune partie des grâces qu'ils demandèrent en Lithuanie. Secondement lorsque le Primat au nom du Roi fit demander au Prince palatin une réponse finale sur les candidats aux charges, il la donna par écrit en disant 'que tant qu'il plaira au Roi de le consulter sur la distribution des vacances, il ne pouvait en proposer d'autres que ceux qu'il avait proposés avant deux mois parceque dans ce temps il n'avait consulté que le bien public, les talents et les circonstances personnelles des sujets.' Jugez vous-même si dans tout ce que je viens de vous exposer il y a la moindre manque de respect au Roy?

Si vous demandés pourquoi il y a plus de signatures aux manifestes de Bruhl que ceux des Czartoryckis, je vous dirai que les 36 signatures de ceux-ci se sont faites sans offres ni menaces, uniquement par amitié et par la conviction du mauvais droit de Bruhl, fondé sur les loix qui y sont énoncées, au lieu qu'on a employé tout le pouvoir des promesses des grâces du Roy et des 4 généraux et des menaces les plus fortes du contraire pour faire signer les présens; on a inséré les signatures des absens, témoin celle du neveu du grand Maréchal de Lithuanie; on a fait signer

* Stanislas Poniatowski, afterwards King of Poland.

comme nonces des gens qui ne l'étaient pas, témoin, celui qui a signé comme nonce de Rozan et qui lui-même avait rompu la diettine de ce canton.

Dans ce manifeste Bruhl semble objecter aux Czartorycki qu'ils ont participé autrefois aux premiers actes où il est entré en jouissance des prérogatives de la Noblesse polonaise. Ils répondent qu'ils y ont connivé dans l'espérance que se croyant polonais il chérirait le bien-estre de cette patrie, mais que depuis qu'il a brisé tous les liens publics et particuliers qui les retenaient vis-à-vis de lui, depuis que la distribution vénale des charges et l'altération manifestement frauduleux des monnoyes fait le malheur de la patrie, ils ont fait parler les loix expresses.

Si l'on vous dit que les Czartorycki, jouant gros jeu, ils seront écrasés par la haine puissante du favori, là-dessus ils pensent premièrement qu'il faut faire son devoir à tout risque et qu'il se trouve encore chez nous des hommes intègres et courageux qui préfèrent l'honneur à tout, comme Wollowicz nonce de Sloninola bien fait voir en refusant mille ducats et une compagnie de gens d'armes que le Maréchal Miecznik lui offrait pour sa signature.

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* Sur la MANIÈRE VIOLENTE avec laquelle de SIMOLIN, CONSEILLER D'ÉTAT de RUSSIE, a mis EN SÉQUESTRE toutes les terres et revenus de SON ALTESSE ROYALE le DUC DE COURLANDE.†

N.D. [1763, Jan.]—La veille de Noël, le 24^e e Décembre, 1762, M. de Simolin, Conseiller d'état de Russie, envoya le Lieutenant Colonel Schroeders mettre le Sceau Impérial sur les douanes au passage de la rivière, d'abord après le même Lieutenant-Colonel se rendit à la maison de poste pour défendre au Maître de Poste de la part de M. de Simolin de ne donner de la part de qui que ce soit quelque argent de celui qu'il pourrait avoir en caisse. Le Maître de Poste lui répondait qu'il n'en avait point pour le présent, et qu'étant engagé à son devoir par serment il n'avait d'autres ordres à suivre que ceux du Duc son maître, sur quoi le Lieutenant-Colonel lui dit qu'il ne devait pas s'opposer à donner un revers comme quoi il ne donnerait aucun argent à qui que ce soit. Le Maître de Poste lui répliqua qu'il ne pouvait pas y acquiescer. Le Lieutenant-Colonel lui dit alors que s'il s'y opposait, il le ferait jeter hors de la maison, et mettrait un autre Maître de Poste à sa place, et il fit tout de suite mettre une sentinelle russe à sa porte. Sur l'avis que Son Altesse Royale en eut Elle fit venir M. M. les Oberraths ou Conseillers suprêmes, et après avoir écouté leur avis là-dessus, Elle députa M. M. le Landhofmeister de Hoven et le Chancelier de Kayserling à M. Simolin, les chargeant de lui témoigner de sa part sa surprise sur des démarches si contraires aux droits du Roi et de la

* See *Buckinghamshire Correspondence*, Vol. I., p. 191 : Wroughton to the Earl of Buckinghamshire of the 5th Jan., 1763). where this account is mentioned as having been received by him from the Ministers of Augustus III.

† Charles Christian of Saxony, son of Augustus III.

République, et aux siens propres, Elle le fit requérir de ne pas continuer à agir de cette sorte, et lui fit demander de quelle autorité il faisait tout cela, lui faisant dire, que si c'était par ordre de l'Impératrice,* lui, Duc, avait à tous égards tout le respect possible pour Elle, mais que n'ayant d'autres ordres à respecter que ceux du Roi son père et maître, il protestait contre tout ce qui serait fait sans le consentement de sa Majesté le Roi, comme contre les démarches contraires aux droits du Roi, de la République et les siens. Les sus-dits Conseillers s'acquittèrent mot pour mot de cette commission et firent rapport que M. de Simolin leur répliqua avec beaucoup de vivacité et d'emportement, que tout ce qu'il faisait c'était selon l'ordre de l'Impératrice de mettre le séquestre sur tout ce qui avait apparence de revenu ; il a ajouté que tout cela ne serait pas arrivé, si l'on n'eut refusé les quartiers d'hyver aux troupes russes. Les Conseillers lui répondaient que l'on n'avait jamais refusé ni quartiers, ni bois aux troupes, mais qu'on n'avait pu se charger de faire des quartiers pour des troupes étrangères, sans en faire le rapport au Roi, comme maître direct de ce duché. M. Simolin leur dit à la fin que comme ils avaient tous deux des terres ducales en ferme, il leur notifierait par une lettre le même soir le séquestre ainsi qu'à tous les arrondateurs. M. M. les Conseillers lui répétèrent que le Duc leur Maître aurait en toute occasion tout l'égard et respect dû à S. M. Impériale mais en ce qui regardait ces circonstances, il observerait ce que son devoir envers le Roi et la République exigeait de lui. M. M. les Conseillers après avoir fait leur rapport prirent le consentement du Duc pour aller insérer aux publiques une protestation contre tout ce qui pourrait être fait de contraire aux droits du Roi et de la République et de son Altesse Royale avec une relation fidèle de tout ce qui avait été jusqu'à présent dit et fait en cette rencontre.

Pendant ce tems M. de Simolin fit tenir une lettre de la teneur ci-jointe à tous les arrondateurs, leur intimant le séquestre Impérial des terres Ducales qu'ils tiennent en ferme. Un instant après il fit mettre une garde d'un bas officier et de huit hommes au magasin du bois que le Duc avait pour sa provision. La nuit du 24 au 25 il fit poster une sentinelle devant la maison où sont les archives, on a appris le matin que la même chose était arrivée au moulin du Duc, et que l'écrivain de ce moulin avait eu défense de rien donner de l'argent de ce produit. L'inspecteur des étangs qui doit fournir le poisson au Duc vint annoncer en même tems d'avoir reçu ordre de ne lui en point livrer. Le Bailli des deux Bailliages que S. A. Royale s'était réservés pour son économie et sa table reçut une même défense par un officier, qui fut placé avec quelques soldats dans ces bailliages de ne rien livrer pour la Cour. M. Simolin poussant enfin les choses à l'extrémité s'assura du magasin de foin et d'avoine, de la monnaie, de la brasserie et de la basse cour, où il y avait la volaille pour la table du Duc,

* The Czarina Catherine II.

n'oubliant rien pour lui couper tout moien de subsister. Suivant la raison que M. de Simolin allègue du séquestre c'est l'Impératrice qui l'ait ordonné, il est manifeste qu'elle l'a fait sur les faux rapports de ce Conseiller d'Etat qui dans ses relations envénimées, outre d'en avoir imposé à Sa Souveraine par un faux rapport que le Duc se soit opposé au quartier d'hyver que cinq Régimens russes ont pris en Courlande, doit avoir ajouté à ce prétendu refus et opposition, des circonstances les plus odieuses et même atroces, pour que cette Princesse se soit portée à une telle extrémité sans le moindre égard ni pour la personne de S. A. Royale, ni pour son rang et naissance, reconnu par tant de puissances et par la Russie même pour Duc Régnant, à qui Elle avait ci-devant accredité ce même Simolin. Or que la raison que celui-ci a allégué soit destituée de toute vérité, cela est évidemment démontré puisqu'il dit que le Duc s'est opposé, et qu'il a refusé des quartiers d'hyver aux Troupes Russes, pendant que lui, Simolin, ne le reconnaît pas pour Duc, qu'il ne lui a fait aucune réquisition (de quoi seul le Duc s'est plaint) que les troupes ont pris leurs quartiers d'hyver selon la répartition arbitraire que lui Simolin en a faite, qu'elles ont été pourvues du nécessaire, et que le Duc n'a point de troupes pour s'opposer aux Russes.

Sur quoi Sa Majesté a pris la résolution d'expédier incessamment une personne distinguée dans la République à S. M. Impériale pour la rectifier sur les imputations de M. Simolin, et l'on espère que rectifiée, elle contremandera et révoquera des démarches si fort contraires aux principes de justice que cette Princesse a témoignés de vouloir exactement suivre dans son gouvernement, et qui sont si éloignées du bon voisinage et amitié que le Roi et la République se promettaient d'elle.

S. M. espère d'ailleurs de l'amitié de toutes les Puissances, ses amies et alliés, et de la République, et de la fidélité de sa nation, jalouse de son honneur et de sa liberté, d'être secondée à persuader la Cour de Russie de se prêter à des arrangemens plus conformes à la bonne intelligence, que de son côté tant sa Majesté et la République que le Prince Royal Duc Régnant de Courlande n'ont cessé de cultiver fort soigneusement aux yeux de toute l'Europe.

(1) *EXPOSÉ des MOTIFS de SA MAJESTÉ IMPÉRIALE DE TOUTES LES RUSSIES relativement aux affaires de la COURLANDE.

N.D. [1763, Jan. 4.]—L'Impératrice de toutes les Russies en montant sur le trône, croyait ne pouvoir donner des marques plus éclatantes du désir qu'elle a de cultiver l'amitié et le bon voisinage du Roi et de la République de Pologne, qu'en rendant la liberté à ceux pour qui le Roi et le Sénat l'avaient demandée tant de fois et si instamment sous le règne de l'Impératrice Elisabeth.

* Enclosed in a letter to the Earl of Buckinghamshire by Mr. Wroughton, English Minister at Warsaw, on the 5th of January, 1763 (see *Buckinghamshire Corresp.*, Vol. 1, p. 195).

C'était dans ces considérations que sa Majesté Impériale a accordé au Duc Ernest Jean de Courlande de pouvoir sortir librement, et qu'elle s'est interposée en même tems auprès Sa Majesté le Roi de Pologne pour qu'elle voulût restituer le dit Duc dans ses Duchés et lui rendre les domaines qu'en partie il avait dégagées lui-même, et qu'en partie lui ont été cédées de l'Impératrice Anne de glorieuse mémoire.

Plus ces demandes se fondaient sur tout ce qui est juste et équitable, d'autant moins Sa Majesté Impériale s'était-Elle attendue, ni pouvait-Elle s'attendre qu'on l'expliquerait selon la réponse du Roi du 3 Septembre de l'année passée comme si Elle empiétait sur les droits suzerains du Roi et de la République

Mais peut-on dire avec fondement que celui qui sur l'affaire en question en fait la réquisition à ce Prince Suzerain même, empiète sur ses droits et les révoque en doute? Or, comment peut-on interpreter si peu amiablement ce qu'on a demandé de la part de la Russie avec autant de justice que d'équité? Qui peut ignorer la Constitution de la Diète de Pacification de l'année 1736, faite du consentement de tous les ordres de la République touchant les Duchés de Courlande et de Semgalle? On y a statué qu'après l'extinction de la famille de Kettler ces fiefs devaient être conférés à un autre pour lui et ses descendants mâles moyennant un Diplôme, en usage dans de pareils cas, et qu'on conviendrait avec lui des conditions féodales. La Commission de 1727, déléguée de la Diète de 1726 pour les affaires de Courlande, avait été prorogée jusqu'à cette époque; tout cela était observé et exécuté selon la dite constitution. Le Duc Ernest Jean reçut le Diplôme Royal. Les Commissaires nommés de la République convinrent avec lui des conditions féodales; il reçut l'Investiture selon la coutûme et le Diplôme de l'Investiture lui fut expédié solennellement sous les deux sceaux de la Couronne et du Grand Duché de Lituanie avec promesse au nouveau feudataire de la part de la République, de le protéger et le défendre, lui et ses descendants dans ses Duchés contre qui que ce soit; de manière que le dit Duc acquit par-là un plein et indubitable droit à ces Duchés pour lui et pour ses descendants mâles.

Or, si un Prince feudataire sans avoir commis un crime de félonie, ne peut être privé de ses fiefs acquis légalement, de quel droit veut-on soutenir que le dit Duc Ernest Jean soit privé de ses Duchés sans avoir été écouté sans jugement et sans crime contre le Roi et la République?

Si dans le tems où l'on a songé à le priver de ses Duchés il y avait des raisons d'état pour l'en tenir éloigné, à présent les raisons d'état pour ne plus l'empêcher d'y retourner sont d'autant plus fortes qu'il est juste de rendre à un chacun ce qui lui appartient.

S'il est du devoir de la nature et du droit de voisinage d'assister et de protéger un Prince voisin opprimé contre la force et l'injustice, sa Majesté Impériale de toutes les Russies ne peut que maintenir le Duc et les états de Courlande et de Semgalle dans leurs droits, privilèges et prérogatives.

Il n'est pas inconnu à sa Majesté Impériale que ces Duchés sont un fief de la dépendance du Corps entier de la République et non pas du trône seul des Rois de Pologne selon la teneur du Diplôme de l'incorporation de l'année 1569, et selon la constitution de l'année 1736 statuée du consentement de tous les ordres de la République.

Par ces raisons sa Majesté Impériale de toutes les Russies ne veut ni ne peut jamais consentir que ce qui est statué par la République entière, soit renversé par une partie de cette même République, ni que les droits appartenants au corps entier de la République soient enfreints.

Par conséquent sa Majesté Impériale, éloignée comme elle l'est d'empiéter sur les droits de la République de Pologne sur les Duchés mentionnés, et elle n'est pas moins fermement résolue de les conserver constamment dans leurs dépendances féodales avec la République et ne reconnaît ni ne reconnaîtra jamais nul autre pour Duc légitime des Duchés de Courlande et de Semgalle que le Duc Ernest Jean, investi légalement du consentement de toute la République.

Sa Majesté Impériale embrassant en cela ce que la justice et le droit du voisinage demandent ne fait que suivre les constitutions et les loix de toutes des Puissances de l'Europe, qui en vertu de ces constitutions ont reconnu Ernest Jean Duc légitime de Courlande.

(2) BILLET du VICE CHANCELIER DE LA COURUNNE* pour accompagner la RÉPONSE à l'EXPOSÉ RUSSE.

1763, Jan. 9.—Ne connaissant, Monseigneur, à votre Cour aucun droit sur la Courlande je ne sçaurai en chancelier convenir d'aucun motif que S. M. Impériale puisse avoir avec justice de disposer ainsi à force ouverte de cette Province. J'ai lu par conséquent avec beaucoup de surprise ceux que V. E. a allégués dans l'Exposé qu'Elle m'a fait tenir avec sa lettre du 4 d. c. Rien de plus contradictoire que S. M. Impériale ne consentira jamais que les droits appartenants au corps entier de la République soient enfreints pendant qu'ils le sont en son nom, tout comme d'exiger du Roi que ce qu'Elle convient, selon l'Exposé, ne dépendra que de la décision de la République entière. Si la Russie forme quelque prétension sur la Courlande elle s'adressera à la République dont elle reconnaît la souveraineté sur cê Fief et laissera le tems aux Etats de s'assembler et de connaître les prétendus droits de Biron.

Supposant même le Roi et le Sénat responsable de quelque chose dans l'investiture donnée de la Courland au Prince Royal, ce n'est jamais envers la Russie qu'ils le soient, mais envers la République entière. Les Etats, Monseigneur, n'ont fait aucune instance à Votre Cour de se mêler de la disposition de ce Fief; de telles instances ne pourraient lui jamais être faits que par de mal intentionnés prêts à falsifier leur Patrie pour leurs intérêts et

* Of Poland.

avantage particuliers. J'espère donc que V. E. pour réaliser les assurances qu'Elle me donne des intentions constantes de sa Souveraine de ne vouloir empiéter en aucune façon sur les droits de la République ne manquera pas de l'informer de l'atteinte qu'on lui donne en son nom et l'assurer en même tems du cas infini que nous faisons de son amitié pour la République.

(3) REPONSE* à l'EXPOSÉ JOINT à la LETTRE de MONSEIGNEUR le COMTE DE KEYSERLING, AMBASSADEUR DE RUSSIE du 4 JANVIER, 1763. (*Enclosure.*)

1763, Jan. 10. Warsaw.—La justice est la base et le fondement des trônes des Rois ; ce n'est pas sa Majesté Polonoise, à qui l'on puisse reprocher d'y avoir manqué ; trop scrupuleuse même dans ses engagements, on l'a toujours vue y sacrifier ses propres intérêts ; elle a donné un exemple de cette délicatesse extrême au sujet de la Courlande. Le fief de la dépendance de la République vaquait depuis l'an 1741, jusqu'à l'année 1758. (a) Le Comte Biron qui en avait été investi l'année 1739, à la puissante recommandation de l'Impératrice Anne de glorieuse mémoire, (b) au lieu de quitter un service étranger (c) pour aller remplir l'objet de son infeudation, continuant dans le même service pour son malheur, il y fut disgracié et condamné avec ses fils à un exil perpétuel, par un arrêt de l'Empereur Iwan du 17 April 1741. (d) L'on passe sous silence les circonstances du manifeste public contre lui en cette occasion par la dite Cour de Russie dans tout l'Empire, en Courlande même ainsi que dans toutes les Cours Etrangères ; l'intention du Roi n'ayant jamais été de lui faire quelque préjudice, mais de co-opérer à son bonheur s'il avait été possible à S. M. sans déroger aux droits de sa Couronne et à ceux de la République. Si d'ailleurs pour éclairer le public, le Ministère était obligé de relever des circonstances odieuses à Biron, il le ferait avec regrets, quoique ne devant rien épargner de ce qui peut servir à la justification de S. M. contre les mêmes expressions peu ménagées (e), de l'Exposé que l'Ambassadeur de Russie a joint à la lettre du 4^{ème} des motifs de S. M. L'Impératrice de Russie relativement aux affaires de Courlande. Cet Exposé sans date et sans signature (f) ne saurait jamais être avoué de la Cour de Russie, (g) étant trop éloigné de ce qu'une Puissance doit à une autre, et se doit à soi-même ; mais comme il a été accompagné d'une lettre de son Ambassadeur, soit que lui-même ait été surpris par ceux, qui dès longtems tiennent le même langage, se flattant de la protection de la Russie, ou que de bonne foi il pense ainsi ; et que par la manière inusitée de l'insinuer et de le répandre dans le public par des circulaires, on y fait connaître des intentions très-pernicieuses, le Ministre de S. M. chargé de veiller à l'intégrité des droits de sa couronne contre tout ce qui peut donner atteinte à son honneur et autorité, afin de réfuter une pièce écrite sans ménagement, se trouverait obligé

* Enclosed in a despatch of the Earl of Buckinghamshire to Lord Halifax, 26 March, 1763. (See *Buckinghamshire Corresp.*, Vol. I., p. 197.)

d'y répondre avec ressentiment; mais comme il ne saurait suivre d'autre exemple que celui de ses ancêtres, il ne saurait non plus parler directement ou indirectement d'une Puissance qu'avec tout les égards qui lui sont dûs, croyant fermement que sa Majesté Impériale dans tout ce que l'on fait en Courlande en son nom, ait été surprise par des interprétations sinistres, que l'on ait pu donner à la conduite du Roi et de son Ministère et à S.A. R. M^{te} le Duc de Courlande.

Le premier article de l'Exposé fournit une preuve évidente que S. M. Impériale n'en a pas été prévenue; il y est dit, que pour marquer son désir de cultiver l'amitié et le bon voisinage du Roi et de la République de Pologne, S. M. a rendu la liberté à ceux, pour qui le Roi et le Sénat l'avaient demandée tant de fois sous le règne de l'Impératrice Elisabeth. Cependant il est connu à tout le monde, que ce n'est pas l'Impératrice d'aujourd'hui, qui a rendu la liberté aux Biron, de qui l'on parle, mais l'Empereur Pierre III. (h) à condition qu'ils renonceraient en forme, comme ils ont fait, à tous leurs prétendus droits sur la Courlande, dans l'intention de se prévaloir de cette renonciation en faveur du Prince George de Holstein, ainsi que cet Empereur l'a fait connaître ouvertement, et par tant d'actes, nommément celui du séquestre sur les biens ducaux pour lequel il avait déjà donné ses ordres, et qui, après sa déposition furent révoqués par S. M. l'Impératrice par un effet de sa justice et équité naturelles.

La Cour de Russie conviendra de *cette renonciation faite par les Biron, (i)* et dont on en voit l'aveu dans la lettre de Pierre Biron au Baron Knigge son agent, et que celui-ci a publiée afin de prévenir les Courlandois, que l'acte de renonciation n'existait plus puisque l'Impératrice l'avait rendu.

On ne s'arrête point ici sur les conséquences que l'on pourrait tirer contre les Biron sur une telle renonciation, la nullité de leur investiture étant démontrée suffisamment ailleurs.

Ce qui *est encore plus remarquable (k)* dans ce 1^{er} article, est que l'on prouve l'amitié de l'Impératrice pour la République par l'attention qu'Elle a eu, en montant au trône, de satisfaire aux instances que le Roi et le Sénat ont faites à l'Impératrice défunte pour l'élargissement de Biron; et lors qu'il s'agit de ne point inquiéter le fils du Roi dans la possession de la Courlande, si légitimement acquise par l'investiture solennelle que le Roi lui en a donnée de l'avis du Sénat relativement à la constitution de 1736, l'on fait donner à S. M. Impériale une marque d'amitié pour la République tout à fait contraire à la première; Elle ne peut point consentir que les droits, appartenants au Corps de la République, soient enfreints par une partie de la République, savoir par le Roi et le Sénat (l) et Elle en fait revivre les instances faites sous le règne précédent. Si c'était l'intention de sa Majesté Impériale, elle aurait au moins attendu (m) qu'on lui renouvelât ces instances à Elle-même, et ne s'engagerait point à vouloir faire un plaisir, dont ni le Roi, ni le Sénat la prie, ni la République.

Ces instances ne sont encore point allées au delà des offices que la clémence a fait faire au Roi pour l'élargissement de Biron, et on ne s'est jamais adressé à la Russie pour le rétablir. (n)

Cet Exposé fait évidemment retomber tout le tort sur l'Impératrice Elisabeth de glorieuse mémoire, sur son Ministère et sur le Sénat même de Russie (o), de n'avoir jamais voulu donner seulement une réponse à tant d'instances, qu'elle avoue aujourd'hui lui avoir été faites consécutivement pendant tant d'années de la part du Roi et du Sénat pour l'élargissement de Biron ; jamais pour telles demandes que l'on ait faites du côté de la Pologne à la Russie, *on n'a pu obtenir la satisfaction qu'elle démentît les prétentions qu'Elle avait au fief, pour tenir ainsi qu'elle faisait la plupart des Terres Ducales en séquestre, et pour en tirer les revenus au profit de son trésor* (p).

La seule réponse enfin, qui a été donnée au sujet de ce Duché au Roi et au Sénat, ce fut l'année 1758, que S. M. l'Impératrice Elisabeth, par la voie de son Ministère fit déclarer solennellement, que par toute raison d'état de l'Empire ni Ernest Biron, ni ses enfans ne pourraient à jamais être élargis ; que S. M. le Roi pourrait par conséquence conférer ce fief à un autre pour satisfaire à la justice et la continuelle demande des Courlandais d'être conservés sous le Gouvernement d'un Duc, et cette Princesse recommanda elle-même le Prince Royal Charles (q) pour être Duc de Courlande, faisant déclarer à Sa Majesté le Roi, qu'il serait chose utile à la République de conférer l'investiture de ce fief à S. A. Royale. Comment croire que les Etats de la République puissent jamais désapprouver une conduite si scrupuleuse de la part du Roi ? Comment moins encore de la part de la Russie peut-on reprocher au Roi de l'injustice ? *L'Impératrice Anne après la mort du Duc de Courlande Ferdinand sollicita le Roi* (r) qu'en vertu du pouvoir que la Constitution de 1736 lui avait donné en cas de mort du dit Duc d'investir un autre de ce Duché, S. M. daignât le conférer à Jean Ernest Comte de Biron. Comme la Constitution *n'avait faite aucune mention du dit Biron* (s) S. M. convoqua le Sénat, et ce n'est que de son avis qu'elle lui donna l'investiture, tout comme elle a été conférée au Prince Royal Charles, en vertu de la même Constitution ; par laquelle on peut encore juger, que l'intention des Etats n'ait pas été exclusive de tout autre cas de vacance, vû que cette loi n'a été portée que pour révoquer le décret de la Commission de l'an 1727, d'incorporation de la Courlande à la Pologne pour être partagée en Palatinats, et pour conserver les Courlandais sous le Gouvernement d'un Duc ainsi qu'il y est exprimé. Par conséquence à cet égard encore on ne pourrait pas objecter le défaut de consentement de toute la République pour l'investiture du Prince Royal (t) le fief étant vacant, tant par la nullité de l'investiture de Biron que par sa mort civile ; mais où le consentement de toute la République était expressement requis, c'était pour dispenser Biron de se présenter en personne pour prendre l'investiture ; cependant il n'a été dispensé que par le Roi et le Sénat, (u) qui est cette partie de la République contre laquelle l'Exposé se récrie dans l'investiture du Prince Charles, qui cependant s'est présenté en personne pour satisfaire à la loi de toute la République. Biron ainsi investi en la personne de son plénipotentiaire, fut quelques années après par la sentence

susmentionnée de l'Empereur Iwan III. portée par le Sénat, privé de l'honneur, de la liberté, de tous ses biens (v) et de ceux qui étaient administrés en son nom appartenants au domaine de la République, et fut confiné au fond de la Sibirie. L'Impératrice Elisabeth le rappella à Taroslaw, en faisant connaître de son côté des intentions de le relâcher, S. M. remplie de clémence, pour seconder la bonne volonté de cette Impératrice, interposa ses instances pour le relâchement de ce Prisonnier d'Etat de la Russie; mais enfin son élargissement étant déclaré impossible par raison d'Etat, et en vertu de la sentence, qui avait été portée contre lui et ses fils d'exil perpétuel, n'étant plus à considérer que comme civilement morts, S. M. fut conseillée par le Senat de ne pas abandonner ce fief, mais d'en investir le Prince Royal Charles son fils, et d'adhérer ainsi aux instances que S. M. Impériale de glorieuse mémoire lui faisait (x) en sa faveur. Outre les raisons d'Etat et l'intérêt de la République qui obligeait S. M. d'y consentir, Elle s'y trouva autorisée par la République même par la constitution de 1736, que sur la nullité évidente de l'investiture que Biron avait reçue restait en entier comme si elle n'avait pas encore eu d'effet.

Sans répéter les motifs, qui sont allégués dans l'Exposé et mémoires précédens du Ministère pour prouver la nullité de l'investiture de Biron, celui d'avoir été investi sans être reconnu de la République et de n'avoir point eu son privilège muni du Sceau de la Couronne, suffirait pour la démontrer (y).

Mais quand tout cela ne serait point, quel droit la Russie acquiert-elle par-là sur la Courlande, fief incontestable de la République? Si c'est par droit de voisinage, droit nouveau que cet Exposé introduit, que S. M. Impériale prétendrait disposer de la Courlande, sur les motifs qu'il lui plaisait d'adopter, il n'y a pays, ni cour, qui n'ait des droits sur ses voisins. Le plus grand motif qui est allégué conformément à ce droit de voisinage (z) dans l'Exposé mentionné de la part de S. M. Impériale, se fonde à défendre un Prince voisin opprimé contre la force et l'injustice. Si c'est à Biron que cela se rapporte dès qu'il était innocent, *c'est la Russie qui lui a fait tout le tort et toute l'injustice*, (aa) de n'avoir jamais voulu le relâcher, et de le priver d'honneur, de biens, et de liberté; c'est à elle à le dédommager, mais pas aux dépens d'une autre Puissance, qui n'a eu aucune part à ses malheurs et ne lui a fait que du bien. Si au contraire Biron a été coupable, S. M. Impériale a tout le pouvoir de lui rendre dans son Empire l'honneur et la liberté, mais elle ne prétendra pas, de la façon qu'il a été traité, qu'il puisse être rétabli dans un Duché sans aucune formalité que celle des armes, et que simplement sur la grâce qu'elle lui accorde, le Roi, quoiqu'il le voulût, puisse sacrifier son fils qui est en possession de ce fief par une voye légale, et sans au moins ce consentement de la République en corps, que l'Exposé prétend avoir été nécessaire pour lui donner l'investiture. L'honneur de S. A. Royale touche le Roi de trop près, et opprimer le Prince Royal pour soulager Biron, ce ne peut jamais être l'intention de l'Impératrice; car l'innocence du Prince est manifeste par toutes les raisons, qui

ont été alléguées. L'honneur du Roi intéresse toute la République, et ce serait exiger qu'elle fût insensible, que de vouloir qu'elle regarde avec indifférence une puissance étrangère disposer d'une manière absolue d'une Province qui lui appartient (bb) et cela par la raison de soutenir ses droits. C'est un malheur pour le Prince Royal Charles, si S.M. Impériale ne voudra pas le reconnaître pour Duc, ainsi qu'il a été reconnu dans les Gouvernemens précédens ; mais c'est un tort qui est fait à toute la République, d'avoir à son insçu fait séquestrer par les troupes Impériales tous les revenus du Domaine, (cc) jusqu'à couper à ce Prince feudataire les moyens de subsister. Si S. M. Impériale reconnaît la Suzeraineté du Roi et de la République sur les Duchés de Courlande et de Semgalle, et qu'en bonne amie et voisine Elle ne veuille en aucune façon empiéter sur les droits dont la République est en possession, on la prie très-instamment de ne rien décider elle-même sur la Courlande, de suspendre les effets de la protection qu'elle accorde à Biron, et de laisser aux états de la République la liberté d'exercer les droits qu'elle leur reconnaît de décider. On peut bien s'assurer de l'équité et délicatesse de sa Majesté le Roi, que quoique convaincu de la validité et justice de ses démarches, loin de décliner la Diète, elle ne manquera pas de la convoquer le plutôt qu'il lui sera possible, et d'informer les Etats tant des intentions de S.M.I. que des motifs qu'Elle a de s'intéresser pour le Comté Biron, comme si on lui avait fait de l'injustice en donnant l'investiture de la Courlande au Prince Royal de Pologne. La fidélité que les Etats doivent à leur Chef est inséparable de celle qu'ils doivent aux loix ; et le parti qui dans cette affaire de Courlande a jusqu'ici suscité des oppositions au Roi, aura toute la liberté d'y étaler ses argumens. S. M. Impériale par la constante intention qu'elle déclare avoir de ne donner aucune atteinte au bon voisinage et de prouver son amitié à la République, voudra bien en attendant retirer ses troupes de la Courlande, conformément à l'article du Traité de perpétuelle Alliance, qui stipule à l'égard de la Russie *nullum in Curlandiam et Semigalliam jus sibi assumeret, nec bello eas infestaret ullare ratione vexaret* (dd), et voudra bien aussi recevoir en bonne amie et voisine les représentations, qui lui seront faites par ordre de S. M. par une personne distinguée* qu'elle lui envoie à ce sujet. S.M. Impériale sera convaincue que l'on n'a jamais disputé à Biron la possession de ses terres allodiales ; que S. A. Royale Mgr. le Duc de Courlande n'a pas seulement été dans le cas de pouvoir refuser des quartiers d'hiver aux troupes Russes comme on lui a objecté ; que S. M. le Roi, le Prince Royal son fils, le Ministère et toute la Nation n'ont et n'auront rien de plus à cœur que de cultiver son amitié.

F. Bielinski, G.M.

M. Wodziecki, Evêque de Przemyśl, Chancelier de la Couronne.

T. Wessel, G.T. de la Couronne.

Gl. de Mnischek.

* M. de Borch.

- (4) RÉPONSE de S. E. MONSEIGNEUR LE COMTE DE KEYSERLING, AMBASSADEUR DE RUSSIE à la LETTRE de S. E. le VICE-CHANCELIER de la COURONNE accompagnée de la RÉPONSE à L'EXPOSÉ du premier, en date du 4 Janvier, 1763.

1763, Jan. 10. Warsaw.—Il était superflu de mettre mon nom ou une datte à l'Exposé des motifs, puisqu'il était accompagné d'une lettre où il y avait l'une et l'autre. Ce n'était donc pas un écrit anonyme, ni fait dans l'intention de traiter cette affaire ministériellement, mais seulement pour prévenir les fausses insinuations qu'on a débitées tant ici que dans d'autres endroits, comme si la Russie avait dessein d'arracher les duchés de Courlande et de Semgalle à la République, et de se les approprier. C'a été dans cette vue qu'on a donné l'Exposé susdit, pour désabuser le Public et en donner part aux Sénateurs et aux Ministres de cette République. Mais comme dans la Réponse à cet Exposé, que V.E. m'a envoyée ce matin, il se trouve un nom qu'un Ambassadeur de Russie ne saurait reconnaître, et qu'il y est insinué que je devrais être désavoué au sujet du sus-dit Exposé, je déclare à V. E. ne pouvoir me charger d'envoyer à ma Cour une pièce conçue en termes si peu analogues aux égards qui lui sont dûs, mais j'en garderai l'original pour servir de preuve en tems et lieu, etc. . .

- (5) RÉPONSE du VICE CHANCELIER DE LA COURONNE à ce BILLET du COMTE DE KEYSERLING.

1763, Jan. 12.—A cause de l'incommodité que me tient au lit je n'ai pas été en état de répondre plutôt à la lettre de V. E. que j'ai reçue le 11 de ce mois. Elle m'y apprend que dans la réponse que je lui ai envoyée ministériellement il y a un nom qu'un Ambassadeur de Russie ne saurait reconnaître et qu'elle ne peut point se charger de l'envoyer à sa Cour. Comme l'intention du Ministère n'a été que d'alléguer historiquement tous les faits, motifs et raisons qui pouvaient servir à la justification de S. M. le Roi mon très gracieux Maître, et à persuader la Cour de Russie, je prie V. E. de faire sousigner les noms qu'elle ne peut pas accepter et de me renvoyer la pièce. J'en conférerai avec mes collègues et elle sera convaincue de nos véritables sentiments de ne nous éloigner en rien des égards qui sont dus à un Ambassadeur et à sa Cour.

- (6) REMARKS * upon the foregoing RÉPONSE made by the RUSSIAN MINISTER for the use of the EMPRESS CATHERINE II.

N.D. [1763].—(a) Si le fief de Courlande comme on le dit, a vaqué depuis l'an 1741, jusqu'à 1758, pourquoi a-t-on réclamé, l'an 1750, le Duc Ernest Jean comme Prince feudataire de la

* Enclosed in a despatch of Ld. Buckinghamshire to Ld. Halifax, 26 Mar., 1763. The letters mark the corresponding paragraphs in the *Réponse*, see p. 200, which the Remarks profess to criticize.

République? Pourquoi n'a-t-il été que l'an 1758, qu'on a déclaré vacans ces fiefs? Il est notoire, que le dernier Duc Ferdinand de la maison de Kettler est mort l'année 1737. Si donc les fiefs de Courlande et de Semgalle n'ont vaqué que depuis 1737, jusqu'à 1741, ils n'ont pas vaqué. Le Duc Ernest Jean a donc été dans cet intervalle le Prince fudatoire de la République et Duc légitime de Courlande.

(b) Le rescript du Roi au Comte Lénard du 23 Septembre 1734; la lettre du Comte de Bruhl du 10 février 1736; les lettres du Roi, datées de Varsovie le 22 février 1736 et le 25 janvier 1737, démontrent assez évidemment que Jean Ernest ne devint pas Duc de Courlande par la puissante recommandation de l'Impératrice Anne de glorieuse mémoire, mais qu'il le devint par les offres que lui fit de ces Duchés la Cour de Pologne de son propre mouvement et par reconnoissance. Les originaux de ces lettres se trouvent entre les mains du Duc Ernest Jean. (c) On n'a jamais regardé comme crime de félonie l'engagement d'un vassal de servir un Prince Etranger. Le Roi et la République de Pologne n'ont jamais exigé que le nouveau Duc quittât les emplois, dont il étoit alors revêtu à la Cour Impériale de Russie. Bien loin de là on a été très-persuadé, qu'il y allait de l'intérêt du Roi et de la République de maintenir par sa présence la bonne amitié et le bon voisinage entre la Russie et la Pologne, si bien que le Roi même l'a félicité sur son avènement à la régence et a par cela même approuvé alors, ce qu'on prétend faire passer maintenant pour un crime de félonie.

(d) Il est bien surprenant que les quatre Ministres sous-signés se rapportent à un arrêt d'un Empereur de Russie, le nom duquel n'est pas reconnu, mais aboli, dans l'Empire de Russie, comme les manifestes de l'Impératrice Elisabeth de glorieuse mémoire le fait voir.

(e) Comme on n'a pas marqué les prétendues expressions peu ménagées, qui doivent se trouver dans l'Exposé des motifs, il n'y a rien à dire là-dessus.

(f) Il étoit superflu de mettre le nom de l'Ambassadeur ou la date dans l'Exposé des motifs, puisqu'il étoit accompagné d'une lettre, où il y avait l'un et l'autre.

(g) Il est étrange de supposer que votre Majesté Impériale désavouera, non seulement ce qu'elle a ordonné, mais aussi ce qui s'est fait par son Ambassadeur puisqu'on prétend que tout se soit fait par surprise.

(h) Ce n'est pas l'Empereur Pierre III. mais l'Impératrice Catherine II. qui fait sortir librement hors de son Empire le Duc Ernest Jean et ses enfans. En vérité! Cette circonstance n'entre pas dans les raisons de l'affaire en question.

(i) Cette prétendue renonciation n'est jamais parvenue à sa perfection; supposé qu'elle eût été, elle n'aurait pas eu plus d'effet, que cet acte de renonciation, que le Roi de France, François I^{er} fut forcé de donner pendant sa captivité à Charles Quint, puisque ces sortes d'actes, extorqués par force, sont invalides et juridiquement nuls.

(k) L'amitié, que votre Majesté Impériale porte au Roi et à la République, se fait assez connaître en ce qu'elle souhaite que les prétendus droits du Prince Charles soient aussi bien fondés que ceux du Duc Ernest Jean; alors, elle serait charmée de faire pour le fils du Roi ce qu'elle fait pour le dernier, selon le beau commencement de la réponse à l'Exposé, que 'la justice est la base et le fondement des trônes des Souverains.'

(l) L'Exposé des motifs ne parle que d'une partie de la République, et non pas du Roi. Pourquoi donc faire une interpolation? N'est-ce pas le droit de s'expliquer, qui appartienne à un auteur?

(m) Si votre Majesté Impériale eût dû attendre jusqu'à ce que le Roi et le Sénat se fussent intéressés pour le Duc Ernest Jean, Votre Majesté l'aurait attendu en vain. Mais c'est la magnanimité et la justice qui font agir Votre Majesté pour des innocens et des opprimés.

(n) Il n'est pas dit dans l'Exposé des motifs, que le Roi et le Sénat de Pologne se soient adressés à la Russie pour relâcher le Duc Ernest Jean. Mais les propres mots en sont: "Que Votre
" Majesté Impériale a voulu rendre la liberté à ceux, pour qui le
" Roi et le Sénat l'avaient demandée tant de fois et si instamment sous le règne de l'Impératrice Elisabeth."

(o) Avec quelle justice et quelle vérité peut-on dire que l'Exposé des motifs fasse évidemment retomber tout le tort sur l'Impératrice Elisabeth de glorieuse mémoire, sur son Ministère et sur le Sénat même de Russie? Est-ce que ce tort s'ensuivrait de ce qu'on a dit des raisons d'Etat? Qui est assez peu savant pour ignorer que les raisons d'état se changent du vivant même des Souverains? Mais qui est-ce qui ne voit pas, encore plus évidemment, l'esprit de malignité caché, et qui ne tend qu'à faire révolter l'ancien mais pourtant fidèle Ministère contre la volonté de sa très gracieuse Souveraine?

(p) Mais c'est effectivement faire tort au souvenir de feuë l'Imperatrice Elisabeth de glorieuse mémoire, que de dire jamais on n'a pu obtenir "la satisfaction, qu'elle démentît les prétensions
" qu'elle avait au fief, pour tenir, ainsi qu'elle faisait, la plupart
" des terres Ducales en séquestre et pour en tirer les revenus au
" profit de son trésor."

(q) Quoique feuë l'Impératrice Elisabeth de glorieuse mémoire a voulu beaucoup de bien au Prince Royal Charles, néanmoins le Grand Chancelier Comte Woronzow a fait connaître par ordre de Sa Souveraine, du mois de juin 1758 en réponse à la lettre du Roi du 15 Mai 1758 que, si pendant les conjonctures si délicates et guerrières alors, la matière de l'élection d'un nouveau Duc de Courlande fut mise sur le tapis, elle ne servirait qu'à donner occasion à des plus grands désordres, à des raisonnemens sinistres et à des soupçons dans la République même. Que l'exécution de ce dessein était un ouvrage, qui demande absolument la concurrence du Roi, aussi bien que celle de tous les Alliés. Que la négociation de la Paix future en pourrait fournir la matière désirée, d'autant plus qu'il n'est pas à douter, que les autres Puissances, qui y sont intéressées, ne

s'efforcent, à l'exemple de l'Impératrice, à contribuer officieusement à tout ce qui pourrait aboutir au contentement de S. M. Polonaise et au bien de sa maison Royale. Par là, on voit clairement que feüe l'Impératrice Elisabeth a été recherchée par la Cour de Pologne, et qu'elle n'a pas voulu précipiter l'élection d'un nouveau Duc.

(r) La fausseté, comme si l'Impératrice Anne eût sollicité après la mort du Duc Ferdinand de donner ces Duchés en fief au Duc Ernest Jean est démontrée par les quatre lettres, qu'on a déjà alléguées *sub-littera*.

(s) Il est vrai, que la constitution de l'année 1736 n'exprime pas explicitement le nom du Duc Ernest Jean, mais néanmoins il y est nommé implicitement ; car la dite Constitution ordonne, qu'après la mort de Ferdinand et l'extinction de la tige de Kettler, ces fiefs soient conférés à un autre. Qui était donc cet autre ? n'était ce pas le Duc Ernest Jean, à qui l'on a donné ces fiefs *more solito*, selon l'ordonnance de cette loi publique ? Ou, en voulant appliquer cette loi au Prince Royal Charles, il faudrait soutenir que le Duc Ferdinand est mort deux fois, puisque la Constitution de l'année 1736 ne parle que d'un seul cas de vacance du fief ; qui est, qu'après l'extinction de la branche de Kettler ce fief de Courlande soit donné à un autre, ce qui s'exécuta en le conférant légalement au Duc Ernest Jean.

(t) Voilà un argument bien concluant ! La constitution de 1736 dit, de conserver les Courlandais sous le Gouvernement d'une Duc ; et de là on conclut, qu'on peut disposer de ces fiefs dans tous les cas sans le consentement ultérieur de la République, de façon qu'on peut le prendre et le donner selon son bon plaisir, quoique le Roi ait expressement promis dans le 58^{ème} des Pacta Conventa, qu'il emploierait ses soins relativement à la Courlande, conjointement avec la République, sans déroger aux anciens droits de la Noblesse et des villes de ce Duché.

(u) La constitution de l'année 1683 dit, que la permission accordée au Duc Frédéric Casimir de prêter hommage par des plénipotentiaires ne servirait point d'exemple à l'avenir mais cette constitution ne dit pas, que les Rois avec le Sénat n'en puissent dispenser un Prince feudataire par des raisons légales. Posons qu'il y ait un manquement en ce que le Duc Ernest Jean n'a pas prêté hommage en personne, à qui en attribuer la faute ? Est-ce au Roi avec le Sénat, ou est-ce au Prince feudataire à veiller aux loix ? Tout ce qui en résulterait, ne serait point de le priver des fiefs, mais au plus, de l'obliger à venir prêter hommage en personne.

(v) Comment peut-on se rapporter à une sentence d'un Empereur qui n'est pas connu parmi le nombre des Empereurs de Russie, comme tout le monde le sait, par les manifestes publiés de feüe l'Impératrice Elisabeth de glorieuse mémoire ? N'est-ce pas sortir des égards qu'on doit à la branche régnante de Pierre le Grand ?

(x) La fausseté de ce qu'on avance se fait voir par la lettre du Grand Chancelier, Comte Woronzow, laquelle on a citée *sub littera*. (q)

(y) La hardiesse d'une allégation aussi fausse est presque incroyable, puisque l'inspection seule des Actes de la République même fait voir, que non seulement le Sceau de la Couronne équivale à celui de la Lithuanie, mais même le Grand Sceau, appelé *Sigillum Magistaticum* par excellence a été apposé au Diplôme d'investiture du Duc Ernest Jean.

(z) Le droit de voisinage est fondé dans le droit de la nature et des gens, et si reconnu de tout tems dans le monde, qu'il serait superflu d'alléguer la foule d'exemples qui prouvent cette vérité. N'était-ce pas par ce droit de voisinage que la Russie soutint le Roi aujourd'hui régnant sur le Trône de Pologne?

(aa) Si l'on a fait quelque tort au Duc Ernest Jean en Russie, elle tâche de le redresser. Il sera bon de suivre cet exemple.

(bb) Sa Majesté Impériale ne disposera aucunement du Duché de Courlande, mais Elle soutient seulement ce qui a été disposé de ce fief par la République entière.

(cc) Si le séquestre qu'on avait mis dans le tems passé sur les domaines en Courlande à l'insçu de la République, n'a pas été regardé comme un tort fait à la République, on ne s'attendait pas à l'explication, qu'on en a faite, d'autant moins que ce séquestre ne se fit pas pour faire tort à la République, mais pour soutenir le droit de toute la République.

(dd) Il n'y a point de traité ni article, où il se trouve ces mots: "Russia nullum in Courlandiam et Semigalliam jus sibi assumeret, nec bello eas infestaret, nullave ratione vexaret." Ce Traité de perpétuelle Alliance fut conclu l'année 1686. Dans ce tems-là la Livonie était dans la possession des Suédois, et par conséquence les Duchés de Courlande et Semigalle étaient voisins de la Suède et non pas de la Russie. Et alors il n'y avait ni lieu, ni raison de faire entrer la Courlande dans un Traité, que l'on faisait avec la Russie, on n'a qu'à lire le dit Traité de 1686. On n'y trouvera pas un mot de ce prétendu passage, ni en langue Russe, ni en Polonais et encore moins en Latin.

THOMAS WROUGHTON* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1764, May 9. Warsaw.—I have just time to inform you that our Diet assembled on Monday last; General Mokronoffsky delivered a manifest on the part of himself, several Senators and Nonces against the validity of the Diet, which had very near cost him his life; for several Arbiters endeavoured to massacre him, and would have effected it, without the immediate interposition of Prince Adam† and others of his friends. This alarm and confusion being over, the Chamber proceeded to the election of their Marshal, Prince Adam was unanimously chosen. Yesterday in the afternoon, the Great General,‡ Prince Radzivil, the Palatin of Kiovia, and several others left the town; it is said that they will make a Confederation in the neighbourhood of Cracow, to be near at hand to receive support from Austria and Saxony; twenty-two

* British Envoy at Dresden and afterwards at Warsaw.

† Czartoryski. ‡ Branitzki or Branicki.

Senators and forty-nine Nonces have signed the Manifest, the major part of the Nonces are of contested elections.

The Bishop of Cracow has declared against the family,* and making a Manifest against the violence in the Chamber of Nonces and the precautions taken by the family of placing Guards in the streets about the Castle, leaves the town immediately and will probably carry off some friends from the family.

The Prussian Ambassador is arrived here.

NOTE on the part of the RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT in reply
to that of M. DE BORCH.†

[1763,] April 4. Fait à Moscou.—Toute l'Europe voit et sans doute avec étonnement que la Cour de Saxe, après avoir formé un établissement des Duchés de Courland et de Semigalle pour un Prince de sa maison au mépris des droits d'un Duc auquel ils avaient été légitimement conférés de l'autorité des trois ordres de la République, ne se refuse à aucun moyen possible pour faire valoir une telle disposition toute illégale qu'elle est.

Loin de se rendre aux premières instances que S.M.I., sollicitée par son humanité et sa justice, s'était portée à lui faire en faveur d'un Prince malheureux et injustement dépouillé, sa réponse ne portait rien moins que l'anéantissement de tous les droits de la famille du Duc Jean Ernest en même tems qu'elle réclamait le droit de les juger. Ses démarches ultérieures, toujours guidées par la même partialité n'étaient dirigées qu'à forcer S.M.I. à abandonner un Prince qui n'a d'autre ressource que sa protection à qui elle est accordée et dont sa dignité l'engage à soutenir la juste cause.

Tel fut le dessein de la mission du Chambellan de Livonie Sr. de Borch, et quoique S.M.I. ne pût l'ignorer elle ne voulut point luy refuser l'audience, persuadée qu'elle se devait à elle-même de convaincre le Roy de Pologne ainsi que les autres puissances que tout ce que S.M.I. faisait, elle n'y était déterminée par aucun autre motif que par celui de la plus exacte équité. Il présenta à l'Impératrice une lettre particulière du Roy qui ne portait aucun caractère et le recommandait seulement pour l'affaire de Courlande. Aux représentations qu'il fit sur cette affaire ainsi qu'il en était chargé, le Ministère eut ordre de luy communiquer la réponse de S.M.I. qui était telle qu'on ne pouvait manquer d'y reconnaître aussi évidemment la droiture de ses démarches et sa fermeté à les soutenir. Sans y avoir égard il revint à de nouvelles instances et les appuya avec un ton qui peut-être ne tenait que de l'entêtement mais dans le fait paraissait fort peu éloigné de celui des menaces.

Il eut été contraire à la dignité de l'Impératrice d'y paraître indifférente, mais elle se contenta de faire déclarer une fois pour toutes au Chambellan de Borch qu'elle ne varierait point dans

* The Czartoryski.

† Jean de Borck or Borch, the informal envoy from Augustus III., sent to Catherine II. to represent the Polish view of the Courland question.

sa résolution qu'elle lui avait déjà fait communiquer que l'étant la dernière réponse qu'il avait à attendre elle luy fit indiquer un jour pour prendre congé.

Ce fut alors que le S^r. de Borch s'annonçait comme un homme revêtu du caractère d'envoyé du Roy de Pologne, prétendit qu'il ne pouvait prendre congé sans lettre de rappel, comme si celle dont il avait été porteur, qui n'était qu'une simple lettre particulière qui ne demandait de même qu'une simple réponse, avait été d'une nature et d'une forme à en avoir besoin.

Sans s'arrêter à cette fausse prétention S.M.I. ordonna à son Ministère de luy remettre sa lettre pour le Roy, de lui déclarer que sa mission était finie comme de fait elle l'était. Le Chambellan de Borch après l'avoir reçue, s'arrêta toujours icy, continua à vouloir faire le Ministre et quoiqu' averti qu'on ne l'écouterait plus, il n'en continua pas moins ses importunités soit par un zèle outré et mal entendu ou plutôt pour obéir à ses instructions qui tendaient visiblement à braver S.M.I. dans sa Cour.

De tels démarches pour forcer S.M.I. à rétracter une résolution qu'elle avait fait connaître si clairement, une conduite si opiniâtre et si inconséquente de la part d'une personne, qui n'avait aucun caractère et en affichait un ouvertement dans cette Résidence blessaient trop S.M.I. pour être souffertes plus longtems et elle ordonna à Son Ministère de signifier au S^r de Borch de partir dans deux fois 24 heures. Il y consentit mais ne voulant rien rabattre de ses premières prétentions de Ministre, dont il s'était entêté il voulut faire valoir la nouvelle qu'il avait reçue qu'un *Senatus Concilium* avait autorisé le Roy de Pologne à l'accréditer au nom de la République auprès de cette Cour, et il soutint qu'en se rendant à l'insinuation qui lui était faite de partir, il ne pouvait le faire que comme envoyé de la part du Roy et de la République. En vain lui a-t-on fait voir le néant d'une pareille prétention, en lui démontrant que sans lettre de créance, il n'y a point de caractère, que non seulement il ne luy en a point été envoyé, mais encore qu'il ne pourra luy en arriver de longtems jusqu'à l'arrangement pour le titre Impérial, non seulement il est parti dans cette idée, mais encore on apprend avec étonnement qu'il a envoyé à tous les ministres étrangers résidents ici, une note en forme de protestation relative à son départ de cette Cour, où il se qualifie d'envoyé du Roy et de la République de Pologne.

Quoique l'Impératrice ne fasse nul doute qu'une pareille pièce ne soit appréciée comme elle le mérite, cependant pour détruire jusqu'aux moindres impressions qu'elle ne pourrait faire, S.M.I. a ordonné de communiquer à M.M. les Ambassadeurs et Ministres étrangers résidents à Sa Cour toutes les circonstances cy-dessus relatives au départ du S^r Borch et les raisons qui le rendaient indispensable.

Ils y verront clairement le peu de solidité et l'inutilité de la Note du dit Chambellan qui s'arroge un titre qu'il n'a pas, qui réclame des droits qui ne sont pas faits pour luy et ne plaint que d'avoir eu ce que sa conduite et les instructions qui la dirigeaient luy ont mérité. Il sera aisé d'y reconnaître que ce que S.M.I. a

fait elle aurait été forcée de le faire même contre un Ministre accrédité, puisque le droit des gens ne peut s'étendre jusqu'à forcer un souverain à se voir offensé et bravé dans sa propre cour qu'à plus forte raison, ce qui a été fait vis à vis du Chambellan de Borch, qui ayant fini sa commission, ayant reçu sa réponse à une lettre que ne luy donnait aucun titre, s'obstinait à rester à Moscou, et n'y étant que comme particulier n'en continuait pas moins à faire le Ministre et à vouloir se communiquer avec le Ministère Impérial comme telle, contre les intentions et la volonté de S.M.—a été juste, tout à fait naturel et dans l'ordre.

Sa Majesté sera bien aise à cette occasion que les Cours étrangères voyent par les faits même, par la conduite du Sr. de Borch en Russié, par son obstination à vouloir être regardé comme ayant un caractère, enfin par sa prétention à vouloir qu'on le croye renvoyé de la Cour de Russie comme envoyé de la part de la République de Pologne, tandis qu'il ne l'est que comme un particulier qui a fini une Commission, à laquelle la République n'a jamais eu aucune part. Combien on cherche à faire illusion à la Pologne et à échauffer les esprits, au préjudice de la bonne union qui subsiste et doit subsister entre l'Empire de Russie et la République ; au lieu que tous les soins que Sa Majesté s'est donnés depuis le commencement de cette affaire, n'ont eu d'autre objet que de ne pas confondre une chose personnelle à la Maison Royale de Pologne, avec ce qui concerne la République et qu'en soutenant les droits incontestables du Duc Ernest Jean sur les Duchés de Courlande, elle n'a fait que soutenir les droits mêmes de la République et a porté on ne pouvait plus loin la délicatesse et l'attention à aller au devant de tout ce qui pourrait faire naître des démêlés avec un état voisin, dont elle estimé l'amitié et qu'elle est jalouse d'assurer de la sienne.

THOMAS WROUGHTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1763, July 16. Dresden.—They are busy here about the regulation of their army, which in four years is to be raised to 30,000 men. The difficulty is the settling a proper fund for the payment of it, which cannot be done but by the States assembled. The Diet is to commence the beginning of next month. I need not tell you that if an accident happens to the Count* it will produce as great a Revolution as the death of a monarch in an absolute country.

Lady Stormont has been here some weeks waiting for her husband, whose departure from London does not seem fixed.

THOMAS WROUGHTON to THE SAME.

1763, Sept. 10. Dresden.—The entry of the Russian troops in Lithuania has filled us with the greatest apprehensions, but we have received per the last post from Warsaw the agreeable news of a pacification being made between the Russian

* Henri Comte de Brühl.

Ambassador and the Primate of the Republic, by which means the Russians are to return to their own Country, and two very material points are gained by the family of Czartoryski.

It certainly gives me great pleasure that my friend Osten* has met with so gracious a reception, I thank your Lordship for this agreeable intelligence, and dare present my compliments to him thro' your Lordship's Channel.

Count Bruhl is in the most miserable situation a man can possibly be in, the Physician declaring it to be out of his power of saving him, that he may live some weeks or even months in this terrible anguish. He is one moment dying, and the next so much better as to write. He is visible only to his family, and his illness puts an entire interruption to all manner of business.

PROTOCOLLE DES CONFERENCES TENUES DANS LE PALAIS
DU PRIMAT LE ——— D'AÔÛT.

N.D. [1763.]—(This relates to the proceedings which led to the pacification mentioned in Mr. Wroughton's of the 10th September, 1763, by which the Russian Ambassador agreed to the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Lithuania.) “Sachant le cas que sa très gracieuse souveraine fait de l'amitié et de la conservation de la tranquillité de la République.”

(In return for which grace the Ambassador demands:—)

“1^{ème}. Que le Prince Radziwil et le Tribunal de Wilna n'accablent ni poursuivent de décrets et de *Condemnatis* les amis de la Russie et ceux qui ont été contraires au dit tribunal.

2^{do}. Que les Décrets et *Condemnata* dont l'exécution a été remise *ad tempus bene visum* n'aient point lieu. Par rapport au Tribunal de Petrikau il est notoire que c'est un Tribunal qui est uniquement du ressort de la Noblesse. C'est pour quoi il est juste qu'on lui laisse les mains libres, afin qu'elle puisse élire sans aucune contrainte les Députés et laisser juger à ceux à qui il appartient, de la légalité de l'élection et des Députés élus. Pour cet effet il est à propos qu'on éloigne toutes les troupes du lieu du Tribunal et qu'on n'y envoie que le nombre accoutumé pour la garde.” . . .

(A commission is also to be constituted of Polish and Russian representatives) “pour le réglemeut et la bonification des dommages causés par les troupes Russes dans le Pays.” . . .

En suite de quoi on a expédié des exemplaires signés de part et d'autre.—“Le 12. d'Août, Wolodkowicz a attaqué le logis du Sieur Sielicki, gentilhomme du Palatinat de Polock, Régent de la Chancellerie du Prince Czartoryski, a sabré plusieurs de ses gens et, entre autres, a emporté d'un coup le crâne d'un de ses gens. Le lendemain, Sielicki voulant porter plainte au Tribunal de cette violente attaque de son logis, à laquelle il n'avait donné aucune occasion que celle d'être ami de la maison Czartoryski, ne put trouver aucun avocat qui osa seulement plaider pour lui, tous disant qu'ils sçavaient combien il est dangereux d'être contre

* Adolf Siegfried von der Osten, Danish Envoy to Russia.

Wolodkowicz d'aucune façon. Sielicki fut donc forcé d'aller porter de ses propres mains le crâne sanglant de son domestique au Tribunal, qui le condamna encore à une amende en faveur de Wolodkowicz.

Le Sieur Piszczala, gentilhomme du Palatinat de Minsk, avait depuis plusieurs années une dispute de frontière avec le fameux Wolodkowicz. Celui-ci auquel le témoignage de plusieurs paysans, appelés comme témoins en justice, ne lui avait pas été favorable, les a enterrés tous vifs, a mis les corps dans un bois où leurs cris ont enfin attiré des gens à leurs secours. En suite par la protection armée de Radziwil, il a toujours empêché Piszczala de se mettre en possession de ce que plusieurs décrets de plusieurs Tribunaux consécutifs lui avaient adjugé. Enfin il avait épié un moment où Wolodkowicz, plus occupé ailleurs, veillait moins sur cette terre et il s'y introduisit de bon droit, prouvé et confirmé par décrets. Peu après il est allé à Wilna pour y veiller à ce que dans ce Tribunal, favorable aux Haydenucs (*sic*), Wolodkowicz ne regagna quelques avantages juridiques sur lui. Le 18 d'Août il soupait tranquillement dans son logis lorsqu'un coup de pistolet chargé de deux balles tiré de la rue lui a percé la poitrine et l'a tué raide mort."

(Here follow accounts of other similar outrages and miscarriages of justice.)

"Voilà le Tribunal* dont il s'agit d'arrêter et contenir l'iniquité. . . . Or comme il est naturel que tous ceux qui ont signé les manifestes par les quels on ne reconnaît pas ce Tribunal pour valide, refusent d'y plaider et se laissent contumacer, cela produira autant de bons patriotes appauvris, autant de richesses d'ajoutées à celles que les Radziviliens possèdent, mais ce qu'il y aura de pire c'est autant de prétextes de violences les plus sanglantes et de meurtres atroces, tous exercés contre des gens qui composaient le parti Russe.

Si du premier coup d'oeil on est étonné qu'une troupe de Brigands puisse devenir terrible à tout un pays, on le sera moins en réfléchissant à l'enchaînement par lequel le moindre valet d'un Wolodkowicz par exemple, tel crime qu'il commette, est soutenu par son maître; celui-ci par le Tribunal de Lithuanie et le Palatin de Wilna; et ceux-ci par la faveur et l'approbation de la Cour, de façon qu'on se trouve seulement à quatre degrés depuis le malfaiteur le plus obscur, jusqu'à la Majesté du trône."

FROM STANISLAS PONIATOWSKI TO S. A. S. MGR. LE
DUC REGNANT DE COURLAND AND SEMIGALLE.†

N.Y. [1764] A Varsovie, Mai le 31.—J'ai différé à dessein la réponse que je devais à la lettre dont V. A. S. m'a honoré le 7 du courant, pour avoir le tems de vous prouver par des souhaits la part que je prend à vos intérêts. Enfin grâce au ciel votre juste cause a triomphé. Hier les états de la République assemblés à cette Diète de Convocation ont reconnu pour nuls et invalides

* Of Wilna.

† John Ernest de Biren.

touts les actes qui étaient contraires à V. A. S. et ils confirment les droits incontestables que vous et vos descendants mâles ont aux Duchés de Courlande et Semgalle.

Je me trouve trop heureux d'avoir pu contribuer avec un zèle aussi véritable qu'heureux aux succès de vos désirs. (*Holograph.*)

BIL^o concernant le Duc et le DUCHÉ de COURLAND.

N.D. [1764.]—La Constitution de 1607, Art. 20, sous le titre Curatelle a expressément défendu que sans le consentement de la Diète, le Roi ne dispose en aucune manière des Duchés appartenants à la République. Ce qui fut stipulé nommément pour les Duchés de Courlande et de Semigalle dans les *Pacta Conventa* d'Auguste III de glorieuse mémoire afin qu'il employât ses soins avec la République, elle donna peu de tems après à la Diète de Pacification de 1736 par une Constitution portée le pouvoir au feu roi Auguste III de disposer en faveur d'un autre des Duchés au décès du Prince Ferdinand pour lors en vie et de la famille de Kettler éteinte en sa personne. En vertu de cette Constitution Ernest Jean Comte de Biron obtint en fief pour lui et ses descendants mâles les Duchés de Courlande et de Semigalle, que les arrangements féodaux, suivant la dite Constitution, devancèrent. C'est pour quoi nous conservons et maintenons le Duc Ernest Jean et sa lignée mâle dans ce droit et la possession du fief obtenu légitimement ainsi que la Noblesse de Courlande et de Semigalle dans ses droits, privilèges, pacte de sujettion et dans sa forme de gouvernement sauves les conditions auxquelles le Duc doit satisfaire, marquées dans la Commission. Or comme en 1739 le Duc Ernest Jean ne prêta point hommage en personne mais bien par un Pleni-potentiaire contre la Constitution expresse de 1683, pour réparer en ce qu'il fut manqué à la loi et lui rendre sa première vigueur, statuons: que ce Duc en personne si la santé et l'âge peuvent lui permettre, ou son fils aîné devant succéder au Duché vienne rendre hommage à la fois pour lui et son Peré au futur Roi et à la République. De plus nous entendons que le Duc moderne Ernest Jean et ses descendants régnants, n'accepte aucun service étranger et que les Duchés de Courlande et Semigalle après que la branche masculine du Duc actuel Ernest Jean serait éteinte, retournent à la libre disposition de la République. Nous voulons que la Commission qui regarde les arrangements avec le Duc Ernest Jean vu la Constitution de 1736, effectuée le 12 Nov. 1737, à Danzig, soit insérée dans les Constitutions de la Diète présente.

Quant aux dispositions faites et le diplôme délivré, de même que sous les autres actes qui s'ensuivirent à l'insçu de l'Ordre Equestre et sans le consentement d'une Diète, uniquement par les derniers Résultats du Conseil des Sénateurs, comme elles sont contraires aux Loix et conséquemment invalides, déclarons:—Qu'elles ne sauraient causer aucun préjudice et obstacle au Duc Ernest Jean et à ses descendants mâles.

* Of the Polish Diet. (See *Buckinghamshire Correspondence*, Vol. II., p. 186.)

En outre, par l'autorité de la République nous enjoignons aux habitants de Courlande de telle condition qu'ils soient, d'être selon les loix des Duchés, fidèles et soumis en tout à leur légitime Duc Ernest Jean.

Comme il y a toute sorte de plaintes de la part des palatinats et districts du Duché de Lithuanie et de la Livonie même à l'égard des frontières, des frays onéreux, des douanes, des difficultés d'obtenir la justice et d'autres circonstances, nous aurons soin que le Roi futur expédie une commission à cet effet.

THOMAS WROUGHTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1764, June 10. Warsaw.—I send your Lordship now two different relations of a scene that has passed between the Primate and the French Ambassador on the latter's waiting on him and informing him of the orders of his Court to quit this place; the Ambassador has not delivered his ministerially, but I have received it from a third hand, and believe it to be as he relates it; this story makes a great deal of noise here, and will probably make more in France, where the Primate dispatched yesterday a courier with the "*exposé*," and a letter to his Most Chⁿ Majesty.

M. de Paulmy went from hence the day before yesterday, and it has been reported that he would soon be followed by the Imperial Ambassador, tho' I cannot learn from any word dropt from His Excellency, that he has as yet any such orders from his Court. I think this quarrel had better been avoided, as I do not see any good that can accrue from it in whatever point of view we regard it; as to every thing else we remain in great tranquillity; the great General is at a little town called "Sambour," and has already offered to capitulate, tho' upon conditions that have been judged unacceptable. We do not know if the corps that is sent after and is very near him, will think proper to attack him, or seeing the necessity to which he is drove, may not rather choose to make use of milder means and give him time to let his small army accede to the authority of the Prince Régimentaire.

The Diet will continue their session until the latter end of next week, when we expect a General Confederation of the Kingdom of Poland, as there is already of the major part of the Dutchy of Lithuania.

RELATION de ce qui s'est passé chez le PRIMAT* le
jeudi 7 Juni.

[1764.]—M. l'Ambassadeur s'est rendu chez le Primat avec le Sieur Hennin, Résident, vers les onze heures et demie. Il y a trouvé grand nombre des personnes, et entre autres le Prince Czartoryski, Palatin de Russie. Le Prince Primat sous prétexte d'incommodité n'a pas voulu s'asseoir et a demandé à M. l'Ambassadeur s'il avait quelque-chose à lui déclarer, ajoutant que

* Prince Ladislaus Lubinski, Archbishop of Gnesen and Primate of Poland.

S.E. pouvait dire ce qu'elle avait à dire ; M. l'Ambassadeur lui a dit à voix basse qu'il venait lui faire part des derniers ordres qu'il avait reçus de sa Cour, que Sa Majesté étant informée de tout ce qui s'est passé en Pologne, lui avait ordonné de faire une visite au Prince Primat et de lui dire (ici M. l'Ambassadeur a tiré son original de la dépêche et lu,) que la République étant divisée et la ville de Varsovie livrée aux Troupes Etrangères (la dépêche portait à *la mercy*) de ces Troupes, qu'ainsi le Roi lui avait ordonné de se retirer jusqu'à ce que le calme et le bon ordre soient rétablis en Pologne. M. l'Ambassadeur a ajouté "ce que je désire qui soit bientôt, Sa Majesté ne cessant de prendre une part sincère à la liberté et à la tranquillité de la République comme elle a fait connaître par ses déclarations." Le Prince Primat élevant sa voix a dit à M. l'Ambassadeur, "Vous ne reconnaissez "donc pas la République?" A quoi M. l'Ambassadeur a répondu "Je reconnais la République divisée et la ville de "Varsovie livrée à des Troupes Etrangères, j'ai ordre de me "retirer et je me retire." M. Henin a dit alors "Monsigr. le "Primat répond à ce que M. l'Ambassadeur ne dit pas."

Le Prince Primat a dit en adressant la parole à M. l'Ambassadeur et regardant le Résident, "Puisque vous ne reconnaissez "la République, vous pouvez aller la chercher, vous et tous les "Ministres de France." M. l'Ambassadeur a répondu, "J'ai "mes ordres, les autres exécuteront les leurs." M. Henin s'avancant alors a dit au Prince Primat "Je rendrai compte à ma "Cour, de ce que V.A. me déclare et j'attendrai ses ordres." Le Prince Primat a repris parlant à M. l'Ambassadeur, "Si vous ne "nous reconnaissez pas pour la République, vous pouvez l'aller "chercher où il vous plaira." A quoi M. l'Ambassadeur réplique de nouveau, "Je reconnais que la République est divisée et c'est "parce qu'elle est divisée et que la ville est au pouvoir des "Troupes Etrangère que j'ai ordre de me retirer." Le Prince Palatin de Russie a pris alors parole et dit "Il faut espérer que quand le Roi de France sera mieux informé." . . . M. l'Ambassadeur a répondu, "Le Roi est bien informé et j'exécute ses "ordres." Alors le Prince Primat après avoir encore dit "Si vous ne reconnaissez pas que nous sommes la République, allez la chercher, et ajouta, "Adieu, M. le Marquis de Paulmy." M. l'Ambassadeur a répondu "Adieu M. L'Archévêque" et s'est retiré sans que personne l'ait reconduit. La garde a reçu ordre de ne pas rendre à M. l'Ambassadeur les honneurs d'usage qu'il avait reçu en entrant. C'est ainsi que s'est passé une scène dans laquelle sans aucun fondement un Ambassadeur qui faisait par ordre un compliment qui n'a rien de choquant a été brusqué d'une manière qui l'a surpris au dernier point. L'article des honneurs supprimés est hors de tout règle, puisque la guerre même étant déclarée, un Ambassadeur rappelé, (et M. le Marquis de Paulmy ne l'est point) jusqu'à sa sortie de sa résidence jouit de tous les honneurs dus à son caractère.

(A second version of the scene giving a more favourable account of the Polish attitude during the interview was also enclosed.)

THOMAS WROUGHTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1764, June 24. Warsaw.—The Confederation in Lithuania joined by some Russian troops attacked a town and castle belonging to Prince Radzivil, defended by a considerable garrison (called Niedzwiesce) and after taking the town made an attempt upon the castle, but after firing some cannon shot against it, were obliged for that time to make a retreat. The Prince who was at *Bialla* in the Palatinat of *Brzese* with his little Army of about 5,000 men immediately marched to Count Flemming's house in the neighbourhood, took 200 men prisoners, a considerable quantity of ammunition, plundered a convent, burnt several houses in the village, and has done other great damages to the Count, and we were in pain for the seat of the Prince Chancellor Czartoryski, but we heard yesterday evening that he is marched to relieve *Niedzwiesce* and to fight the Russians, which is the step that his enemies had most to wish for.

We received also an account of a skirmish that has passed between the troops of the Great-General and those commanded against him by a M. Braniski, in which the advantage was on the side of the latter, who has taken about sixty prisoners.

Yesterday our Diet ended and was succeeded by a General Confederation of the Kingdom of Poland; the Prince Palatin of Russia is chosen Marshal of it, and a Count Bzewieski, Great Notary of the Crown, departs in a few days for St. Petersburg to announce it to the Empress, and intreat the effect of her promises in the support of it and the laws and privileges of the Republic. The Diet of Election is postponed until the 27th of August. (*Cypher.*) I am very happy that your Lordship is likely to conclude the Treaty of Commerce and wish that of Alliance may soon follow. I executed the order I received from London upon this subject and am expecting to hear the issue of it.

THOMAS WROUGHTON to THE SAME.

1764, June 30. Warsaw.—We have received an account of all the troops that were with the Great-General having submitted to the Prince Palatin of Russia; and the Great-General with the General Mokronoffski* being retired into Hungary, so that all is quiet on that side of the country.

We are anxiously expecting news of Prince Radzivil, who is marching to meet the Russians. Prince Repnin is gone from hence with all the Russian troops that were in this neighbourhood, and several other officers are sent by the Palatin of Russia

* General Mokronoffski a little later was deputed by the Grand General to approach Frederic with proposals.

1st. That he should guarantee the liberty of the Republic.

2nd. That he should mediate between themselves and the Russian party.

3rd. That certain Acts which tended to make the King's power despotic should not be made valid.

See *Polit. Corresp., Friedrich's des Zweitens.* Vol. 23, p. 448.

with private gentlemen's troops to attack him in the rear, or prevent his escape in case he should think proper to return this way.

The news from Constantinople is also very favourable to the family, the Porte declaring that they wish to see a natural-born Pole on the throne of Poland, agreeable to the views of the Courts of Berlin and Petersburg, and their having insinuated once more to the French Ambassador there, that they desire him not to give any more representations contrary to this resolution. You will be able to procure from the Vice-Chancellor,* or Panin,† a more authentic relation of this news, as I have not been able to get a sight of Keyserling, who has sent me a letter to Panin, which I have delivered to the messenger, and which your Lordship will be pleased to send to him immediately.

THOMAS WROUGHTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1764, July 16. Warsaw.—Before yesterday a Courier arrived from France with an order for the French Resident to retire from hence as soon as possible, on account of the dispute between the Ambassador and the Primate; it is said that that Court is extremely offended at that affair, but whither they intend to demand any satisfaction, or what kind they could ask, is utterly unknown to us here. The Imperial Ambassador and Resident are to quit the place in a few days, so that the intention of those two Courts seems to be not to recognize the election, on the pretext of foreign troops being entered and curbing the liberty of the electors.

We have no further news of Prince Radzivil, except his being in the Palatinate of Volhinia; as he must be almost surrounded with different corps of Russian troops, it cannot be long e'er we receive an account of something decisive in regard to him. Lieut.-Genl. Stöffel is entered with twelve thousand men in the Palatinat of Kiovia, and marched to Leopold to keep everything quiet in those parts. Since the accession of the troops that were with the Great-Genl. to the authority of the Prince Régimentaire, all is quiet in that quarter; the Great-Genl. himself is in Hungary.

Enclosed are 1st: "Copie du Billet de M. de Hennin, Resident de France, adressé a S. A. Mgr le Prince Primat de Varsouie le 16 Juillet 1764." 2nd: "Copie de la Dépêche écrite par Mgr le Duc de Praslin à M. Hennin, Résident de France en Pologne, de Compiègne le 30 Juin, 1764."

THOMAS WROUGHTON to THE SAME.

1764, August 30. Warsaw.—The reconfederation of Halisch of which I informed you has been crushed, and the Mareshal with

* Prince Alexandre Galitzin.

† Nikita Ivanovitch Panin, 1718-1783. First Minister of Catherine II.

the most considerable people engaged in it taken prisoners in a town called "Stanislaw."

Our Diet of Election opened Monday last; as yet the Palatin of Kiovia, the Bishop of Cracow, and some others who had manifested against the legality of the Diet of Convocation have not been allowed to assist at it, as they have not thought proper to retract that protestation; but it is said that to-day all except the Bishop intend to join the Corps of the Republic. The two Chambers will make their junction this morning, that of the Nonces having chosen for their Mareshal a M. Sosnoffsky, Grand Notaire of Lithuania. Count Keyzerling's late illness will probably prevent the audience of the Ambassadors for this week; this Ceremony over, I imagine that in a few days after, our Election will follow, and that Count Poniatowski will be chosen in as peaceable and unanimous a manner as ever was known in this country.

Prince Dashkoff* died of a fever in this neighbourhood yesterday.

The KING OF PRUSSIA to the KING OF POLAND.†

1764, Nov. 29. Berlin.—Monsieur mon Frère C'est avec une véritable satisfaction que j'ai reçu la lettre de votre Majesté du 20 de Septembre et les nouveaux témoignages d'amitié que le Prince Czartoryski, Grand Veneur de la Couronne de Pologne, est venu me donner de sa part. Je lui ai en même tems une obligation infinie du choix qu'Elle a bien voulu faire en cette occasion d'une personne qui m'a été si agréable. On ne saurait être plus sensible que je le suis à la justice que Votre Majesté rend à ma façon de penser au sujet des désordres que pourraient avoir été commis à mon insu sur les frontières de la Pologne. Je puis me promettre que le compte que lui en rendra le Prince Czartoryski lui confirmera le désir que J'ai d'entretenir et de cultiver de tout mon pouvoir cette étroite intelligence avec la République de Pologne, si heureusement établie entre nous, et dont le maintien sera toujours un de mes soins les plus importants. Si j'ai eu le plaisir de donner à Votre Majesté des preuves évidentes des sentimens que je lui porte personnellement, elles doivent lui répondre de tout le cas que je fais de ceux qu'Elle éprouve pour moi. Et la conformité de notre façon de penser nous doit être un garant réciproque de la solidité. Le Prince Czartoryski m'a si bien rendu compte de celle de Votre Majesté que je m'en rapporte à lui avec beaucoup de confiance sur les assurances qu'il lui donnera de mon amitié sincère et de la considération toute particulière avec laquelle je suis, Monsieur mon Frère, de Votre Majesté, le bon Frère, Ami et Voisin,

FRÉDÉRIC.

[Copy.]

* The husband of the celebrated Countess Dashkoff.

† This letter is not included in the published correspondence of Frederic II.

M. WOIDE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

[1765,] à Londres le 15^{me} d'Août, chez M. Williams, Chymist at Galen's Head, Broad St., Soho.—Étant arrivé à Londres avant hiers je prends la liberté d'envoier à V.E. cyjoint la lettre de M. le Général de Goltz. Vous en serez instruit, Monseigneur, de la commission dont je suis chargé. Je suis parti de la Pologne au mois d'Avril. J'ai fait quelque séjour à Berlin, et je me suis arrêté plus de deux mois en Hollande. A la Haïe j'ai eu l'honneur de voir S. E. M. le Chevalier de Yorke, Ambassadeur de S.M. le Roi de la Grande Bretagne, j'ai de sa part une lettre de recommandation pour S.E. le Duc de Grafton, Secrétaire d'état et une pour Monseigneur l'Archévêque de Cambridge (*sic*) et son Aumônier. (Begs his protection and counsel.)

A. S. D. BARON DE GOLTZ (STAROST DE GAUDENTZ)
to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1765, Avril 6. En Grand Pologne.—C'est avec une confiance respectueuse que je prends la liberté de recommander à la gracieuse protection de V.E. le Sieur Charle Godfroi Woide Pasteur de la Communion Réformée en Grande Pologne que le Corp de la Noblesse Dissidente envoie en Angleterre pour porter leurs plaintes et très humbles prières au trône sacré de S.M. le Roy de la Grande Bretagne et implorer sa puissante protection pour ces infortunés. Les Dissidents auraient bien chargé de cette commission un homme de condition, mais l'état opprimé dans lequel ils se trouvent depuis la funeste Constitution de la dernière Diète de Convocation, il leur est même défendu de réclamer la protection des Puissances Protestantes comme guarantes de la Paix d'Olive, par conséquent de leurs droits et libertés; ils ont donc choisi le dit Pasteur Woide comme leur homme chargé d'affaire, qu'il puisse en secret en leur nom faire le récit de leurs souffrances et demander très humblement la haute protection de S.M. pour le maintien du libre exercice de religion, leurs droits et libertés.

Connaissant Monseigneur votre cœur généreux et vos sentimens Chrétiens pour protéger l'innocence et la vraie Religion je supplie V.E. de prendre dans sa protection le Pasteur Woide et de le vouloir gracieusement informer s'il doit rendre ses lettres de créance à V.E, ou à un autre Ministre du Roi, comme aussi de prévenir qu'il ne soit parlé de notre émissaire dans la Gazette.

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PAPERS.

PART 4.—1762-1774.

PAPERS RELATING TO THE TRADE WITH RUSSIA COLLECTED BY
JOHN, EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, DURING HIS EMBASSY TO
ST. PETERSBURG (1762-1765).

‘TRAITE DE COMMERCE.’

A Paper described in a REPORT of the LORDS OF TRADE, 11th Feb., 1763, as “A PARTICULAR EXAMINATION of the STATE of the BRITISH COMMERCE with RUSSIA antecedent to the TREATY of 1734.” *

N.D. [1762, May 18.]—En conséquence des ordres de votre Majesté nous avons examiné le projet d’un nouveau Traité de Commerce avec la Russie, qui a été dressé à St. Petersbourg et présenté à M. Keith, † l’envoyé de S.M. à cette cour, par l’ordre de S.M.I. Nous avons aussi considéré ce qui est détaillé dans la lettre de M. Keith à Milor Bute, qui lui est venu avec le dit Projet, et ayant, poursuivant les ordres consécutifs de S.M. communiqué cette proposition de la part de l’Impératrice ‡ des Russies à la Compagnie et aux marchands principaux, qui sont engagés dans notre commerce avec cet Empire, et demandé leurs observations and opinions làdessus, nous supplions très-humblement votre Majesté de nous permettre de lui exposer le plan cyjoint, ou contre-projet d’un Traité avec la Russie, que la dite Compagnie nous a présenté il y’a déjà quelque tems, contenant leurs sentiments en detail, et toutes les propositions qu’ils avaient à faire sur ce qui avait été offert de la part de l’Impératrice. Cependant comme quelque tems était échu depuis qu’on nous a remis ce papier, il nous a paru nécessaire avant d’offrir notre représentation finale sur une matière de telle importance, de consulter deréchef les messieurs qui sont intéressés dans cette Commerce, afin de pouvoir être informé s’ils avaient quelque chose d’ultérieure à nous offrir. Qui là-dessus nous ont donné la copie d’un Mémoire§ cy jointe, adressé aux Seigneurs du Conseil de Votre Majesté, par les marchands Anglais résidents à Riga, dans laquelle les vexations et les empêchements dont le commerce des sujets de Votre Majesté dans cette ville est surchargé, par diverses procédés irreguliers et, à ce qu’ils disent, arbitraires des magistrats de la dite ville.

* See for this *Buckinghamshire Correspondence*, ed. Royal Hist. Sy., Vol. I 235.

† Ambassador to St. Peterburg 1758—Sep., 1762.

‡ Elizabeth Czarina, 1741—1762.

§ The gist of this is printed in *Buckinghamshire Corr.*, ed. R. Hist. Society., Vol. I, p. 90.

Mais avant d'entrer dans un examen précis ou de ce qui a été offert de la part de la feüe Impératrice, ou de ce qui nous a été remis par les marchands de la Compagnie et autres des sujets de Votre Majesté qui trafiquent dans ces pais, ou des idées qui nous surviennent sur le tout, en toute humilité nous supplions V. M. de vouloir bien nous permettre de constater aussi succinctement qu'il nous sera possible ce qu'il nous semble en général de la nature et de l'étendu de cette branche importante de notre commerce, les vexations et oppressions qu'elle a souffertes durant une longue correspondance commerciale avec l'Empire Russien, et les propositions qu'on a faites pour remédier à ces vexations et oppressions qui donnèrent lieu au Traité de Commerce de 1734, par lequel V.M., pleinement informée des avantages qui résultent de ce commerce, non seulement aux sujets de Votre Majesté, mais aussi à l'Empire de Russie, des empêchements et des obstructions qu'il a essuyées, de l'effet des remèdes qu'on y a appliqués, sera plus à portée de juger de la convenance, de l'utilité ou de l'inutilité de ce qui a été offert de la part de la Russie pour la base d'un Traité de Commerce si bien pour ce qui regarde le commerce que la Marine de l'Angleterre.

Le Commerce des sujets de V. M. avec la Russie est principalement composé des denrées que nous faisons venir de ces pais, sçavoir le chanvre, le lin, la cire, le suif, le fer, les linges, du bois de charpente, du colle de poisson, de la rhubarbe, de la soye crue, du cuir, et de quelques autres Articles de peu d'importance; dont près des trois quarts est payé en or, ou en argent non monnoyé ou en Rixdalers, le reste leur est remis en draps et autres denrées de la production et de la manufacture d'Angleterre, et si on examinait la montée des imports qui nous viennent de la Russie exactement sur chaque article, on trouverait que les Anglais achètent pour le moins autant des marchandises Russiennes qu'aucunes autres deux nations ensemble, et payent plus d'argent comptant à la Russie que tout le reste de l'Europe, et bien qu'on doit convenir qu'il est essentiellement nécessaire aux intérêts de l'Angleterre d'être pourvu régulièrement des munitions nécessaires à nos équipements maritimes, (ce qui fait une partie très considérable de notre commerce avec la Russie) cependant, en faisant une revue exacte de ce commerce en général, on trouvera que la balance, non seulement à l'égard du profit, mais des intérêts réels, penche beaucoup du côté de la Russie.

Et si on se rappelle tous les avantages et les privilèges accordés par les Empereurs de la Russie dans les premiers tems de ce commerce* aux marchands Anglais, on verra clairement que les Russiens eux-mêmes étaient de cette opinion. Et à dire la vérité la Couronne de Russie aurait péché essentiellement contre la politique, adoptée même par les états les moins versés dans les arts et les intérêts du commerce, si elle avait d'abord poursuivi des mesures dont l'opération aurait pu mettre fin à un trafic si avantageux pour leur nation.

* In the years 1556, 1563, 1623. (See for this *Stow's Chronicle*, pp. 629, et seq. and 1044.

Comme pourtant ces privilèges étaient des actes purement volontaires, et qu'on pouvait de tems en tems les changer ou les abolir par ce même pouvoir qui les avaient accordés, on ne devait pas les considérer comme donnant une sûreté, un établissement fixe et durable au Commerce des Sujets Britanniques; aussi en effet ne le donnèrent-ils pas, car, dans le cours de peu d'années, beaucoup d'inconvénients et d'empêchements succédèrent, tant par l'intervention d'intérêts étrangers, que par des loix et des ordonnances d'état, fondées sur des préjugés locaux et partiels qui ont lieu presque toujours dans l'enfance d'un état, quand on s'y trouve peu au fait de ses vraies intérêts à l'égard de ses liaisons tant de politique que de commerce.

On verra plus au large quels furent ces empêchements et ces inconvénients dans un mémoire présenté au Gouvernement par la Compagnie dans l'année 1716, quand on fit la proposition d'établir le commerce des deux Nations sur un pied plus fixe et plus durable par un Traité.*

Nous n'entrerons pas à cette occasion dans le détail de cette négociation, il suffira de dire qu'elle échoua, malheureusement, par l'intervention de propositions de politique, et d'intérêts tout-à-fait étrangers à cette considération; que tous les inconvénients et empêchements continuèrent sans remède, et conjointement avec d'autres causes produisirent des griefs encore plus onéreux; et comme ces griefs et ces inconvénients donnèrent lieu à cette négociation qui établit le Traité de 1734, nous nous contenterons (comme ici dessus) de nous en rapporter aux mémoires où ils sont constatés, suppliants très humblement V.M. de nous permettre de lui exposer aussi succinctement qu'il nous sera possible la substance de ces griefs.

Nous avons déjà expliqué à V. M. qu'une partie du paiement pour les denrées qu'on tirait de la Russie se faisait dans nos manufactures de laine, dont l'espèce la plus grossière servait pour habiller le soldat, et une grande partie de la plus fine, comme le drap large,† les aunes longues, les aunes impériales, et autres toiles différents, s'achetaient pour le commerce de la Perse par les marchands Russiens et Arméniens, qui trafiquaient à Shemakha, Ghilan, et autres villes sur la Mer Caspienne. On s'aperçoit pourtant par un mémoire de la factorerie Britannique à St. Petersbourg en l'année 1732, qu'en l'année 1724, la vente de nos manufactures par ces deux canaux se trouvait extrêmement interrompue dans le premier, de ce que les Russiens achetaient le drap pour l'habillement de leurs soldats dans les territoires du Roi de Prusse où il se trouvait à raison de 15 à 20 pour cent à meilleur marché de ce que nous le pouvions vendre, quoi qu'il était évident que, comparant la valeur réelle des deux, le drap Prussien était de beaucoup le plus cher; dans le second, en ce que les marchands Arméniens qui résidaient

* A draught of this projected Treaty is in Add. MSS. 28154, British Museum. (Townshend to H. Walpole, 3 August, 1716.) See also Add. MS. 28155 for the negotiations in relation to it.

† Broadcloth.

en Russie avaient obtenu le privilège de traverser ce pais avec leurs marchandises, et ayant seulement 3 pour cent de droit de transport, tant pour les denrées Européennes qu'ils portaient en Perse, que pour la soye crue qu'ils en retiraient ; tandis que les Anglais trafiquant sous le même tarif, qui prit lieu à peu près en même tems qu'on accordait ce privilège aux Arméniens, étaient obligés de payer depuis 25 jusqu'à 75 pour cent sur plusieurs de leurs marchandises qui convenaient le plus au trafic Persien ; par cette inégalité dans les droits cette branche se trouvait absolument dans les mains des Arméniens, qui envoyèrent toute la soye crue et les autres productions de la Perse en Hollande, d'où ils faisaient venir toutes les manufactures de laine et autres marchandises qu'ils débitaient en Perse.

Les griefs pourtant qui étaient ceux qui nuisaient principalement au commerce des sujets de V.M. en Russie, ne se dérivait pas ou de ce que nous n'avions point de Traité de Commerce, ou de la mauvaise disposition de la Cour de Russie, ils provenaient beaucoup plus des fraudes et des abus des *individus* particuliers dans la manufacture et la vente de nos draps, représentés et soigneusement exagérés par les Prussiens (dans l'instance de l'habillement des soldats) dont l'intérêt à ce moment venait d'obtenir la supériorité, et nous nous trouvons plus disposés à faire cette remarque par raison que les griefs dont les marchands se sont plaints ont eu lieu plus souvent des mauvais procédés et d'un manquement de probité dans les particuliers, que des restrictions injustes ou peu convenables de l'état où ils trafiquaient.

Ces griefs, bien que les principaux, n'étaient pas les uniques circonstances qui produisaient ces empêchements à l'égard de notre commerce en Russie. Les marchands Anglais résidents dans ce Pais avaient beaucoup souffert par l'augmentation des impôts sur toutes les denrées qui venaient d'Angleterre, mais particulièrement sur les manufactures de laine ; par les décisions partiales et irrégulières des magistrats dans les démêles qu'ils avaient avec les sujets Russiens ; par la difficulté d'obtenir le paiement de ce qui leur était dû de ceux d'entre les gens du pais qui avaient la mauvaise foi de vouloir l'esquiver ; par la méchanceté de ceux qui obligeaient leurs domestiques à trafiquer pour eux dans leurs propres noms ; de ce qu'il ne leur était permis d'acheter des maisons ou des magasins ; de ce qu'on leur refusait des passeports quand ils voudraient se retirer, à moins qu'ils ne donnassent des sûretés qu'il leur était presque impossible de prouver ; des fraudes et des abus dans le brack des marchandises, et d'une diversité d'autres défauts et actes d'oppression qui se trouvent pleinement détaillés dans un mémoire de la Compagnie en l'année 1732. Il est vrai, que sur des rémonstrances qu'on a faites là-dessus, on offrit de remédier à quelques-uns de ces griefs par une ordonnance de sa Maj. Imp. mais comme elle aurait été, comme nous avons remarqué ci-dessus, sujette à être révoquée par la même autorité qui l'avait établie, et comme beaucoup des autres griefs étaient de nature à ne pouvoir se

remédier que par les engagements réciproques d'un Traité de Commerce, les deux nations convinrent amicalement d'entrer dans une négociation à cet effet.

En conséquence de cette Convention mutuelle, et de cette disposition amicale des deux Couronnes, le Lord Forbes,* qui était alors Ministre Plen. de S.M. à Petersbourg, présenta le 8^m d'Aout, 1733, un mémoire contenant les propositions de la part de l'Angleterre qu'on jugeait le mieux convenues à former la base d'un Traité de Commerce.

Ces propositions qu'on avait rédigées en 29 Articles, contenaient non seulement les stipulations pour la sûreté et la commodité en général des marchands dans l'arrangement de leur commerce sur les principes de l'équité, et des avantages réciproques, qu'on trouve dans presque tous les Traités de Commerce ; mais aussi on y faisait provision pour remédier à ces griefs qui avaient donné tous ces empêchements à la vente de nos manufactures de laine, et de ces oppressions et de ces injustices qui provenaient de la partialité des magistrats dans l'administration des lois, et de ce qu'il leur manquait cette protection et ces privilèges qui sont essentiellement nécessaires au commerce.

Pour remédier au premier de ces maux, on proposait que les mêmes droits seraient payés *ad valorem* sur toutes les denrées qu'on faisait entrer et qu'on déchargeait, qui se ne nuiraient pas aux productions et aux manufactures de la Russie, et que quand le marchand n'aurait point de Rickdalers ou d'Ecus, il lui serait loisible de payer les droits dans l'argent qui serait de mise, à raison de tant de Copecks par Ecu ou Rickdaler, qu'il serait permis aux Anglais de transporter toutes sortes de denrées par les territoires de la Russie en aucun autre pais, payants un droit de transit qui ne passerait par 3 pr Cent ad Valorem, donnants aussi caution que ces denrées qu'on avait déclaré d'être de transit, ne seraient pas consommées en Russie ; que les Anglais ne payeraient pas plus de droits d'entrée et de sortie des marchandises que les sujets d'aucune autre nation, et qu'on favoriserait davantage l'entrée des marchandises de laine, pour mettre les Anglais en état d'exporter, et de payer une plus grande quantité des marchandises Russiennes.

Pour remédier aux griefs et aux oppressions dont les marchands Anglais résidents en Russie se plaignaient, on propose que toutes les affaires mercantiles ne seraient jugées que dans le Collège de Commerce, qu'il serait libre aux marchands Anglais, et d'en disposer, et qu'ils seraient exempts de fournir des quartiers pour Officiers, Soldats, ou autres dans leurs maisons, qu'on donnerait des passeports aux marchands qui seraient disposés à quitter le pais sans les obliger de prêter caution, pourvu qu'ils notifiaient leurs intentions deux mois auparavant ; que les marchands qui retenaient des domestiques et les enregistraient au Police, ne seraient pas après responsables aux seigneurs de tels domestiques, ni obligés de rien payer à ce sujet à ces seigneurs, ou à d'autres, qu'ils ne seraient obligés de

* George Lord Forbes, afterwards 3rd Earl of Granard.

produire leurs livres de compte et papiers, si ce n'était pour faire preuve en justice, ni leurs effets ne seraient saisis, exécutés ou vendus, ormis en cas de banqueroute, et alors seulement par le jugement du Collège de Commerce ; que tous esclaves Russes qui trafiquaient pour leurs maîtres enregistreraient au Collège de Commerce les effets et les pouvoirs qu'ils auraient reçus de leurs maîtres, et que leurs maîtres seraient obligés de se tenir à leurs conventions, qu'on donnerait plein pouvoir au Collège de Commerce de faire arrêter les marchands Russes qui partiraient sans régler leurs comptes, ou qui ne se rendraient pas pour acquitter leurs dettes quand ils deviendraient dues, et de se saisir de leurs effets et de leurs personnes ; que les marchands Russes seraient obligés en trois jours après l'arrivée de leurs marchandises à St. Petersbourg, d'en faire l'entrée tout à la fois, tant de ce qu'ils ont sous leurs propres noms, que ceux des autres ; qu'ils seraient aussi obligés d'en marquer la quantité précise sans (réduction ?) per Cent du poids actuel, ou de la mesure de telles marchandises ; et qu'ils seraient sujets à payer les mêmes amendes que les étrangers, à l'égard des fausses entrées, en faisant entrer les marchandises qu'ils tirent des pays étrangers, que le brack sur toutes les marchandises serait le même qu'à Riga, et que les brackeurs seraient responsables pour tous les faux emballages, et qu'on trouverait quelque méthode pour remédier à la fausse mesure des linges, et qu'on ajugerait un échet égal au bandage sur les cuirs et la filasse, et que si quelque dispute survenait sur le déchet, l'acheteur serait en liberté de faire la taxe des marchandises.

En conséquence de ces propositions les Ministres de Russie donnèrent à Milor Forbes deux papiers séparés, l'un desquels contenait leurs observations sur les Articles différents qui se trouvaient constatés dans le mémoire qu'il leur avait présenté, l'autre contenait les demandes qu'ils contaient d'exiger de leur côté.

En composant ces deux papiers V.M. s'apercevra que dans cette réponse pour ce qui regarde les demandes faites par les sujets de V.M. résidents en Russie, pour subvenir aux griefs dont ils se plaignaient, on en admet la justice, l'équité et la convenance, et bien qu'en dressant les Articles du Traité qui se rapportent à ces points, la mode de l'expression n'est pas précisément la même que celle des Articles proposés, et qu'en quelques instances le remède ne vise pas si juste et n'est pas si convenable ni si étendu que celui proposé par Milor Forbes, on n'en a retranché rien d'essentiel ; aussi, depuis ce tems-là, n'y-a-t'il eu aucun fondement de plainte raisonnable de part ou d'autre. Les difficultés principales qui se rencontrèrent dans le fil de cette négociation naquaient de cette partie des Propositions de part et d'autre qui regardaient les droits exorbitants et autres désavantages auxquels l'importation de nos marchandises de laine se trouvait exposée, la liberté qu'on demandait de trafiquer en Perse en passant par la Russie, et les contredemandes de la Cour de Russie.

On voit dans le papier d'observations sur les 29 Articles proposés par Milor Forbes, que cette partie du quatrième Article,

qui regarde le payement des droits *ad Valorem* sur les marchandises Anglaises est absolument rejetée, et quoique dans le cours de la négociation on fit les plus grands efforts pour obtenir cette stipulation elle fut opposée avec la même rigueur, et absolument refusée. Aussi faut-il convenir que les raisonnements dont on se servit pour soutenir cette proposition ne nous paraissent pas de la première conséquence, et que nous ne sommes pas absolument au fait des avantages que les sujets de V.M. en auraient tiré.

On voit de plus dans ce papier d'observations que quoique la Cour de Russie accordait aux sujets de V.M. la liberté de trafiquer en Perse, cependant elle prétendait que ce ne serait que dans les marchandises de la crue et de la manufacture d'Angleterre, et de la crue de la Perse, que le droit de 3 pour cent ne serait qu'à l'égard de ce qu'on retirait de la Perse, que les droits se payeraient en Rickdalers, et que les marchandises Anglaises qu'on débiteraient en ce commerce, payeraient les droits dans le Port selon le Tarif.

Milor Forbes dans sa réponse remarque que les marchands le trouveraient extrêmement difficile de distinguer ce qui était de la crue de la Grande Bretagne et de la Perse, qu'à la vérité les Anglais transportait beaucoup de denrées qui n'étaient pas de la crue d'Angleterre en Perse, et qu'aussi ils en faisaient venir beaucoup de choses qui n'étaient pas de la production de la Perse, mais qu'ils ne pourraient jamais entretenir l'idée de passer en Perse par la Russie, si on exigeait plus de 3 pr cent pour le droit de transit, ce qui ajoute au dépense du transport de terre, monterait à plus que les frais de faire venir le marchandises de la Perse en Angleterre par mer. Il ajouta que l'avantage qui résulterait à la Russie de cette proposition était si grande, qu'on aurait pu s'attendre qu'on laisserait passer les marchandises en Perse par la Russie franchises de tous droits, comme ce n'était pas un nouveau commerce pour l'Angleterre, qui le poursuivait de longtems par les états du Grand Seigneur, au grand avantage des Turcs.

Convaincus à la fin par ces raisonnements aussi clairs qu'équitables, ils consentirent à cette proposition dans sa forme originale comme on le trouvera dans le Traité de 1734.

A l'égard des propositions générales offertes par Milor Forbes qu'on devait donner plus de faveur et d'encouragement à l'importation de nos manufactures de laine, et que les Anglais ne payeraient pas plus de droits d'entrée que les sujets d'aucune autre nation sur les mêmes denrées, elles étaient en elles-mêmes si raisonnables et si justes, et l'équité en était si bien soutenu par la considération des grandes avantages qui résultaient à la Russie de son commerce avec l'Angleterre, qu'il était difficile de s'y opposer, aussi on verra que la dernière fut accordée dans les termes proposés par Milor Forbes, et que la Cour de Russie consentit à baisser et à fixer les droits sur certaines espèces de nos manufactures de laine, comme il est resté par le 27^{me} Art. du Traité en 1734.

Ayant ainsi constaté à V. M. ce qui se passa à l'égard des demandes offertes par la Gr. Bret., il conviendra de parler de celles de sa Maj. Imp., comme elles se présentèrent sur les différents Articles du Projet de Milor Forbes.

Sur le premier, (qui stipulait une liberté de navigation et de commerce tant par eau que par terre dans toute la Russie et les provinces qui y appartiennent, où on permettait, ou on dorénavant permettrait, à aucune autre nation étrangère de trafiquer) la Cour de Petersbourg réclamait le même privilège pour leurs sujets qui trafiqueraient en Angleterre, si bien dans des vaisseaux construits en Russie ou en d'autres pays étrangers portants le pavillon Russe, que dans des vaisseaux Anglais, frétés par des Russes, et que ces vaisseaux et leurs commandants, et leur matelots, tant sujets de la Russie qu'étrangers, ainsi que les marchands et leurs domestiques seraient traités en Angleterre sur le pied de la nation la plus favorisée, et qu'il leur serait permis de passer partout sans empêchement. Sur le deuxième et le troisième Article du Projet de Milor Forbes (par lesquels on stipulait que les sujets de la Gr. Bret. auraient une communication libre dans toutes les Villes de la Russie, et la liberté de faire venir et de vendre toutes sortes de marchandises qui ne seraient pas de contrebande, et de se fournir de provisions et de tout ce qu'il leur serait nécessaire, et de se retirer sans empêchement quelconque) la Cour de Russie demandait une liberté pareille pour tous ses sujets, de passer dans tous les pays de la domination Britannique, non seulement avec des marchandises de la crue de Russie, ou qui étaient fabriquées de ce qui était de cette crue, mais aussi avec toutes les manufactures et productions qu'on pourraient faire venir en Russie d'aucun autre pays étranger sans exception. Ces Propositions étaient si évidemment contraires à toutes les lois de commerce et de navigation établies en Angleterre, et en effet visaient si directement à la racine de l'Acte de Navigation, le soutien principal du Commerce de cette Nation, que non seulement nous déclarâmes qu'elles étaient inadmissibles, mais aussi la Cour de Russie en convint, et en conséquence ils réduisirent leurs demandes de commerce et de communication réciproques à ces deux points. Premièrement, qu'il leur serait permis d'envoyer en Angleterre les marchandises des Tartares civilisés de l'autre côté de la Mer Caspienne, qui occupent ce vaste Pays qui s'étend entre la Sibérie, le Territoire du Mogol, les Frontières de la Perse, et la Mer Caspienne.

En second lieu, qu'ils pourraient envoyer les productions de leur Pays en Angleterre consignées à des sujets Russes à qui il serait permis de trafiquer en Angleterre.

Après avoir examiné le premier de ces points, on trouve qu'il était sujet à la même objection que la proposition originale, et il n'était pas possible de l'admettre dans cette forme, . . . bien qu'il semblait un peu injuste d'exiger des Russes de nous permettre de poursuivre notre commerce en passant par leur pays, et en même tems de leur refuser ce même avantage.

Telle fut cependant la disposition équitable et modérée de la Cour de Russie à cet époque qu'elle ne se picqua pas du refus de

ce qu'il nous était impossible de céder, et se contenta de stipulations générales de liberté réciproque de faire venir dans les pays respectifs des deux nations où il était permis de trafiquer *toutes les manufactures des autres pays, dont la vente et l'entrée n'étaient pas défendues*. A l'égard du second, (savoir la liberté d'envoyer les productions de leur propre pays en Angleterre dans des vaisseaux Anglais consignées à des sujets Russes,) la Compagnie Russie (qu'on avait consultée là-dessus,) consentit que les Russiens trafiqueraient ici, pourvu que ils se conformeraient aux règles, aux ordonnances, et aux statuts de la Compagnie, de la même façon que ceux qui en sont libres, et aussi qu'ils payeraient à la Compagnie un droit pour les marchandises qu'ils feraient entrer égal à *l'excès payé par la Compagnie en Russie sur ce que payaient les naturels du Pays*, pour mettre le Commerce sur un pied égal. Dans le progrès pourtant de la négociation sur cet Article, on varia cette Proposition de la Compagnie, et il fut convenu par les deux partis, que pour établir cette égalité que la Compagnie exigeait, les Russiens réduiraient les droits payés par les Anglais sur la sortie des marchandises à ceux que payaient leurs propres sujets.

Ceux-ci sont tous les Articles qui se sont présentés dans cette négociation qu'il nous a paru nécessaire de constater à V.M., quelques autres de moindre conséquence et d'un genre relatif aux circonstances et à la situation particulière du commerce à cette époque eurent lieu, mais comme ils ne nous semblent pas essentiels à l'information de V.M. en cette occasion, V.M. nous permettra de nous rapporter aux papiers eux-mêmes, dont des copies sort ici jointes ; nous n'avons donc qu'à ajouter, qu'après une pleine discussion de tous les points dont nous venons de parler le Traité fut conclu et ratifié le 2^{me} de Dec^{bre} 1734.

La conclusion de ce Traité, comme elle donna une sûreté et une stabilité mutuelle au commerce des deux nations et opéra à leurs avantages communs, donna aussi un essor et une activité nouvelle à celui des sujets de V.M. La vente des manufactures de laine qui avait tant souffert auparavant s'étendit beaucoup, on fit des contrats avec les sujets de V.M. pour le drap pour l'habillement de l'armée Russienne, et la valeur annuelle de nos manufactures de laine portées en Russie du Port de Londres (prenant un milieu de l'année 1736 jusqu'à l'année 1745 inclusive) monta jusqu'à 14,548*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, bien qu'avant la conclusion de ce Traité prenant également un milieu de dix ans (viz. depuis l'année 1725 jusqu'à l'année 1734 inclusive) elle ne produisit que 9,619*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* On voit aussi que les marchands Anglais encouragés par la permission donnée par le Traité de trafiquer en Perse par la Russie, et portés par les représentations de Mr. Elton qui venait d'être employé pour examiner la nature et les sources de ce commerce et la manière et les facilités avec lesquelles on pourrait le poursuivre, s'engagèrent avec chaleur dans une entreprise qui promettait tant de profit aux particuliers et tant d'avantage à la nation ; on s'adressa au Parlement pour faire lever quelques difficultés qui se présentaient à l'égard de l'Acte de Navigation, et en conséquence un Acte fut passé pour

cet effet qui contenait aussi d'autres régulations pour l'avancement de ce commerce, et bien que la conduite imprudente de Mr. Elton en s'engageant dans la service du Schah de la Perse donna beaucoup d'ombrage à la Cour de Russie, et que la confusion et les désordres qui eurent lieu bientôt après par les grandes révolutions de l'empire des Perses, empêchèrent nos marchands alors aussi bien que depuis de poursuivre ce commerce, nous ne laissons pas de nous flatter que, quand la confusion cessera, et que les affaires de la Perse seront rétablies, la poursuite de cet objet sera renouvelée, et que l'Angleterre en dérivera les plus grands avantages.

Il est vrai que beaucoup de ces marchands qui sont principalement intéressés dans ce commerce avec la Russie, n'ont pas des grandes idées de cet objet et n'espérants pas de réussir sont assez indifférents sur le succès de la proposition. Nous ne pouvons pas pourtant convenir avec eux quand nous réfléchissons sur les circonstances et les avantages de ce commerce; combien aussi ne devrions-nous pas cultiver toutes les branches nouvelles de notre commerce, quand nous avons tant de rivaux qui s'efforcent de nous enlever les vieilles ?

L'intention de cette représentation ne nous permet pas d'entrer dans un détail de tous les avantages qui résulteraient de notre acquisition de cet objet, mais avec la permission de V.M. nous nous en rapporterons à la copie cÿ-jointe de la lettre de Mr. Burrish, datée de Petersbourg le 6^{me} d'Oct^{bre} 1740, dans laquelle ces avantages se trouvent pleinement exposés.

Ce que nous avons déjà constaté prouvera à V.M. quelques uns de tous les avantages que le commerce de vos sujets a dérivés du Traité de 1734, on n'a jamais nié que les avantages étaient égaux du côté de la Russie, aussi est-il assez clairement prouvé par la continuation que la Gouvernement a bien voulu faire de ces régulations longtems après l'expiration du Traité, dans des tems et des situations très-peu favorables à l'intérêt de la Nation Britannique.

Des trente Articles dont le Traité est composé le 4^{me}, le 8^{me}, et le 27^{me} sont les seuls par lesquels les sujets de V.M. dérivent des avantages en commerce qui leur sont particuliers, distinctes de ceux accordés aux autres Nations, aussi ne sont-ils pas au-delà de ce que la raison et l'équité exigent, et de ce que la Grande Bret. était en droit de demander en considération des griefs que son commerce avait essuyé.

Quand nous réfléchissons sur toutes ces circonstances, si bien que de ce que la Russie dérive de son commerce avec l'Angleterre, des avantages supérieurs à ceux que lui produise celui de presque toutes les autres nations ensemble, et que bien que ce commerce a subsisté si longtems on ne l'a jamais changé au préjudice de la Russie en aucun point, mais au contraire, qu'il a eu tout l'encouragement et tous les privilèges que les loix et la Constitution de notre Pais lui pouvaient céder, il nous est difficile de diviner les motifs qui (à notre grand regret) ont déterminé la Cour de Petersbourg d'offrir un Projet dont les principes et les provisions nous sont si peu favorables, et si différentes de cette

équité et de cette modération qu'elle a témoignées en faisant ce Traité de 1734, et qui auraient dû être soigneusement conservées par les deux Nations par égard pour leurs intérêts mutuels.

[The rest of this Paper consists of criticisms upon the Articles proposed by the Russian Government in the Treaty of Commerce, which was finally concluded in 1767.]

“EXTRACTS from the PETERSBURG MERCHANTS’ PETITION to the EMPRESS, together with some ACCOUNT of the PROCEEDINGS relative thereto.”

N.D. [1762.]—By an Ukase or Decree* from the high ruling Senate, the Magistracy was ordered to summon the Merchants of the different Citys throughout the Empire to debate on the situation of their trade and represent whatever grievances or hardships they labour’d under, in order that the same might be removed and they in future be able to conduct their affairs with more advantage to themselves and the benefit of Trade in general.

Upon receipt of the above Ukase in Petersburg, instead of the Merchants and Citizens being allowed to set forth what they thought would mostly conduce to the intention of the said Ukase, a Petition was drawn up and not communicated to them till they were cited to the Guild House, when after a hasty perusal and without granting any time to consider on what it contained, they were commanded to sign it, hereupon several of them who are the most considerable traders declined signing their names, objecting particularly to that Article which points at the foreigner in general, and more especially at the libertys granted to the British trading subjects, well knowing the fallacy of what is therein set forth, and many of those who have underwrote the said Petition were compell’d to it by being retain’d in the Guild House till they comply’d, tho’ 7ths of them are people of no capital or knowledge in trade.

It is further to be observ’d that the number of citizens here amount to upwards of three thousand, who ought to have sign’d the afore mention’d Petition had it been agreeable to their sentiments, whereas there are only eighty-eight merchants, and fourteen mechanicks, barbers, and shoemakers, etc.”

(Their names are appended.)

EXTRACTS from the PETITION above mentioned.

1. That all Foreign Merchants and especially the English have nowhere such privileges and immunitys granted as here:— 1st, that they don’t become vassals and citizens. 2nd, they don’t pay a single Copeck towards the charges the citizens are at. 3rdly, they are exempted from City services, and write for goods to this Port in their own name, keep the same in their houses and retail them at high prices. Altho’ some libertys were granted to the English to the end that our credit in other

* [Of the 9th Decr., 1762, o.s.]

parts should be more generally established, yet by their learning the constitution of the country they became entire masters of the trade and cutt us off from all correspondence abroad. They sell their goods on time (*sic*) at high rates to People of no capitall, furnish them with ready money and bind them by contracts to deliver goods at low prices, by which the Russ Merchants are obliged to deliver their goods according to such Contracts, and if any remain over, they also retain them for payment of such debts as may be owing. They also know the quantity and growth of the products of this empire, they lessen the prices of Russ goods and keep their own at exorbitant rates. They export Russ goods in their own name, ship them in foreign Bottoms, notwithstanding the Parliament of England made an Act in Ann. 1600, that no goods should be brought in foreign Bottoms, except the products of that country to which the ships belong. They export from hence for about 4 Millions of Rubles in goods, and import for a much larger summ, whereon they get 10 per cent by commission and charges. They also get their clerks to be burghers to transport their goods and transact trade in their name.

2. Several who are no burghers erect fabricks, make deliverys, have saw mills, sell their goods in retail and export them to other countrys.

3. The principal Russ Burghers and Citizens of this place to free themselves from serving all offices and charges thereby accruing, solicit privileges, erect fabricks, and enter into farms.

5. All inland merchants and boors who bring goods to this market should not be allowed to retail.

7. Concerning all trading people and mechanicks and that the foreigners should be subject to a tax and subordination.

10. Lastly that all Brokers and Brankers, Notarys, Auctioneers and Gaugers and other inferior Custom House officers should be all Burghers.

SPECIFICATION of incoming and outgoing SHIPS out
of the Russian Ports, 1762.

		Incoming.	Outgoing.
Cronstadt	-	387	234
Riga	-	957	872
Revall		223	218
Pernau		93	93
Arensburg		35	35
Narva		112	110
Wieburg		53	55
Friedrichsham	-	27	34
Archangel		42	48
Onega	-	7	10
Kolskoy	-	1	2
Hapsal	-	7	7
Térmernikoff	-		3

AMOUNT of GOODS EXPORTED from ST. PETERSBURG in the
year 1762 by the undermentioned:—

	Roubles.	Copecks.
1762.—By the English	1,905,449	16
Russians	409,447	47
Hollanders	263,311	49½
Lubeckers	358,743	25½
Rostockers	71,051	37
Dantzigers	111,439	2
Hamburghers	265,126	50¼
French	73,169	89¼
Swisses	17,561	19¼
Saxons	7,370	46¼
Italians	45,109	33
Venetians	3,300	50
Imperials	141	34
Sweeds	45,669	2¾
Armenians	1,681	82¼
Sundry	52,903	91½
Total	3,631,475	77½

AMOUNT of GOODS IMPORTED to ST. PETERSBURG in the
year 1762 by the undermentioned:—

	Roubles.	Copecks.
By Russ Merchants	817,388	03½
English	653,627	72
Hollands	348,822	21¾
Lubeck	257,667	71¾
Hamburg	209,483	18
Dantzic	46,677	1½
French	56,608	87¾
Italian	16,023	43¾
Saxon	89,916	8¼
Rostock	18,810	52½
Sweedish	12,984	28½
Swiss	82,556	87
Austrian	77,204	5¾
Armenians	5,402	22½
Venetians	6,578	24½
Court Factor	25,052	29½
Sundry Passengers	140,963	48
Captains of Ships	68,788	48½
	2,934,554	74¾

SCHEME^e proposed by an ENGLISH MERCHANT as to
BRITISH TRADE with PERSIA.

N.D. [1763.]—The total subversion of laws and government
in Persia for so long a duration render it absolutely imprudent

* Made at Ld. Buckinghamshire's request, mentioned in his Despatch of the 7th
Feb., 1763.

to think of a Factory at Resht (even if the Russians were inclined to grant the former liberties to us) and I am convinced the Court of Russia will never consent thereto.

Therefore I propose that Russia permits one House of Trade or Factory to be established at Astrachan to consist of 2 or 3 persons, whose names are to constitute the Firm of the House, and that they may have 4 English clerks and 2 supercargoes.

That 2 small Snows or Ships of about 60 to 70 Tons each shall be ready and at the service of the British Factory every spring as soon as the ice is broke up in the Volga and the Port of Yärke (*sic*) free and open to carry such wares and merchandizes to Enzeli as the British factors shall chuse to ship; and that such snows or vessels shall be navigated by Russians, but be under the command of the British Factory's supercargoes as to their departure or return, and one of them with a clerk be permitted to go in the spring with each ship and return to Astrachan in the autumn; and that they depart from Enzeli on or before the 28th day of October for Astrachan. That the freight which the English are to pay for such vessels be agreed on and stipulated either by the month or for the season.

That no Russian subjects, Indians, Armenians, or Tartars or any but British subjects have liberty to ship any goods or go passengers in the two vessels referred to in order to prevent any quarrels or chicanes which that nation are but too apt to encourage. That whenever the Government of Ghilan or Resht may be so far settled that the Russian, Armenian, or other merchants may proceed to Resht to dispose of their merchandizes and purchase silk, the British supercargoes shall have that liberty also, leaving one supercargo and one clerk with the vessels in the mouth of the lake of Enzeli while the other with one clerk resorts to Perebazar or Resht or such convenient markets in Ghilan, as other merchants resort to.

By this method I apprehend all reasonable objections would be removed; for the Factory at Astrachan would be absolutely under their own power, the ships to be their own, navigated by their own subjects and the only command our people would have is that of their departure from Astrachan and returning from Enzeli to Astrachan, the latter being even limited; but there I shall anticipate one objection and it is the only one they can with any shadow of reason make, namely that these two supercargoes or their clerks may follow the example of Capt. Elton and enter into the Shaws' service and teach them the art of Shipbuilding, etc. To this objection I answer that Capt. Elton was certainly the most improper person in the universe to be sent into Persia by the English or suffered to go there by the Russians. He had been bred a mariner and a merchant; had even been employed in the Russian service where, I have heard him say, he had been ill-used. These circumstances together with an immoderate share of vanity and the instability of his mercantile situation which he saw declining daily, may probably have been the first motives for his taking the rash step of entering into the Shaws' service where he expected great

honours would be conferred upon him and large profits arise to him and he have the satisfaction of revenging himself, not only on the Russians, but on Mr. Mungo Grame, for between two men never did greater animosity or hatred exist. Therefore care may be taken that none be employed in this new Plan but such as are mere merchants, and, should the Court of Russia desire it, security might even be given them that, in case of any irregularities or breach of any Article in the Treaty, the persons shall be forthcoming or the penalty paid.

But in the present confusion that reigns in Persia, an Empire without a head, there can be no fear that any attempt like that of Capt. Elton's will ever be made, for, if it could not succeed under Shah Nadir, what Emperor can ever make mariners of Persians who dread the water as much as cats.

I have as yet said nothing touching the advantages that would accrue to the British Nation in general as well as to every particular member in that trade and also the Factory in St. Petersburg ; but there are arguments I fear we must be very cautious in explaining to the Russians, whose jealousy and even vanity would prompt them to refuse us, thinking themselves capable of carrying on that trade to the extent we should do ; and therefore I would rather have them applied on our side as a spur to accelerate the means for obtaining the liberties before recited.

I shall, before I conclude, observe that whatever advantages the Russians may propose from denying us and trading themselves to Persia, it is morally impossible that the silk they will or can bring as returns will ever be saleable here in England ; for the greatest part of what they buy is of Georgians and Armenians, and greater thieves and villians there certainly are not in the world, and the Russians in their package of silk follow the same unfair methods. And as to the wollen and other goods they never can make the advantage of them that the English will, for the Russians send agents from Petersburg and Moscow into Persia, who rather than stay more than one season will sell cheap and buy dear in order to be gone, whereas the British Factory would support the market of European goods and keep down the price of silk ; and, as a proof of this, let anyone who has had any tolerable knowledge of the Persia Trade deny if he can that the last three years, when I was at the head of the Factory, any Russians, Armenians, or others were able to make any figure in that trade,—nay they many of them complained they were starving and the trade not worth following. Yet the profits we obtained for our principals were more than would now amply satisfy them, and such as I dare not name ; from whence it appears of what great consequence the obtaining of the liberty herein proposed would be to this nation.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to M. PANIN.

1764, Avril 1^{er}.—Voici à la fin le Papier que j'ai promis à V.E., qui n'a tardé si longtems que parcequ'on a voulu y travailler avec toute la précision possible.

Il convient de la prévenir que l'évaluation des Exports qu'elle trouvera ici est beaucoup plus forte que celle qui est enregistrée à la Douanne de Sa. Maj. Impériale, différence qui provient de ce que là, tout est apprécié sur l'ancien pied sans faire aucune attention à l'accroissement considérable qui s'est fait depuis quelques années sur le prix de toutes les denrées de la Russie. Il n'est pas nécessaire d'assurer V.E. que je suis persuadé que rien n'y est manqué au delà de ce qu'il aura actuellement coûté.

J'attens tous les jours une spécification pareille de Riga.

Il n'est impossible de laisser passer cette occasion sans lui témoigner une partie du chagrin que je ressens de l'état fatal où se trouvent les négociations que je m'étais flatté avec quelque ombre de raison de conclure. Dans votre dernière conversation V.E. ne m'a que trop manifesté que pour le présent il n'y a rien à espérer. Jusqu'à ce moment j'avais toujours cru que nous entrerions au moins dans le Traité de Commerce, supposant que la Russie était trop convaincu des avantages qu'elle retire du trafic de l'Angleterre pour vouloir nous laisser des doutes sur ces intentions de nous accorder les mêmes privilèges dont nos marchands ont depuis si longtemps joui. V.E. me permettra de lui faire trois remarques sur les changements qui sont arrivés dans cette commerce.

Que la Russie consume beaucoup moins de manufactures Anglaises. Que le prix des denrées que l'Angleterre retire de la Russie s'est accru sur presque tous les Articles d'un tiers, à l'égard d'autres, particulièrement le Col de Poisson, à l'infini. Et que le vivre à Petersbourg coûte le double au marchand de ce qu'il faisait dix ans passés.

Je suis sûr qu'elle conviendra avec moi le Traité d'Alliance est un objet qui, vue la situation critique des affaires de l'Europe, mérite toute l'attention des deux Nations ; qu'on ne peut envisager qu'avec regret les difficultés qui en retardent la conclusion. J'espère que V.E. me permettra de la voir aussi souvent qu'il lui sera possible durant le peu de tems qu'il me restera encore à passer en Russie, et qu'elle conservera toujours quelque amitié et quelque bienveillance pour celui qui a l'honneur, etc., etc.

EVIDENCE relating to RUSSIAN COMMERCE given before
the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1774, May 5.—Mr. Nicholas Cavanagh's evidence. (“ Mr. Cavanagh is concerned in a merchant's house established at St. Petersburg and is lately arrived from thence. He resided there 32 years ; he buys and sells and exports the linens of Russia.”)

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PAPERS.

PART 5. 1742-1793.

VICEROYALTY OF IRELAND—AMERICAN REBELLION AND OTHER
PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE.

W. PITT to THE COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK.

1742, July 6. London.—Just after I had received the honour of your letter yesterday, I had a second letter from my sister upon the same scheme, my answer to the first not having reached her, your Ladyship's being at Cheltenham when I made that answer, I was obliged to make it without troubling you upon it, though desired to take your opinion. My answer was (what I have again repeated) that I could not see the scheme proposed to her in any light that would let me think it fit for her; that I thought Paris the most improper place for a single woman to live at, nor could I like her settling abroad any where, if her health did not make it necessary; that I made no doubt but the society my Lady Bolingbrook's protection (which was the best in France) must place her in, would be, to all the world on that side the water, the most reputable advantageous thing imaginable; but that the world here would not know (and perhaps part of it not choose to know) any thing more of her situation, than that she was living at Paris a single woman, that I liked of all things her staying at Argeville, as long as my Lady Bolingbrook would give her leave but when that visit (which I hoped would be a very long one) was made, I advised her to come home. This, Madam, was the substance of my answer to her scheme, which I could by no means entertain a thought of.* I own, it afflicts me not to be able to agree with her in this project, which I see she has a great mind to, when I can only tell her what not to do with herself. I should have been very glad to have known your Ladyship's opinion before I gave my own; if you think as I do of this matter, I shall be sure I think right, your friendship and goodness to my sister I think makes it unnecessary for me to make you an excuse for troubling you so long on her subject. I hope the waters agree with you, and with Mr. Berkley if he ventures to drink them.

GEORGE TOWNSHEND to the WORSHIPFUL MAYOR or RETURNING
OFFICER of the Borough of Thirsk, Yorkshire.

(Endorsed, '*Circular Militia Letter.*')

1756, Aug. 6. Cranmore in Norfolk.—Enclosing the bill for constituting a general militia, which in the last Sessions of

* See for this Mr. George Grenville to Lady Suffolk, Sep. 14, 1742, and Mrs. Anne Pitt to Lady Suffolk, July 10, 1757 (Vol. II. of Lady Suffolk's Letters, pp. 193 and 232) See also Walpole's version (Memoirs of the Reign of George III., p. 85) of Pitt's relations with his sister.

Parliament passed with unanimity. Great weight would be given to this bill if the approbation of Corporations were expressed in the form of petitions to the House of Commons.

“Every circumstance in the situation of this country which united the House of Commons in one sense of the necessity of passing such a bill as this has since the recess of Parliament increased upon us, for we have since that time lost Minorca, invited foreign troops and seen them called home, and found the war every day brought nearer to our doors, from whence nothing, in the opinion of the Commons of England, can keep the enemy, but a general, and to a certain degree, disciplined militia.”

DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1757, Tuesday, June 14.—The Militia Bill having passed and there being consequently a necessity of having a Lord Lieutenant for the county of Norfolk, I have mentioned it to his Majesty, and at Lord Orford's request did recommend him to the King, who has consented to it. I am very sorry that in this instance I am under the necessity of taking a step that may not be agreeable to your inclinations, but my situation is such with the Walpole family as made it unavoidable; upon any other occasion I am sure I should be very glad to oblige your Lordship. I thought it a piece of respect due to you to give you the first information of it.

Extraits d'une lettre de M. DE MONTCALM* à M. DE BERNIER, Ministre de Marine.

1757, du 4 d'Août — Mes correspondences avec les colons Anglais subsistent toujours; même ouverture, même fidélité même candeur de leur part. Un peu de contrebande transporté habilement chez eux m'amène régulièrement leurs dépêches.

(*Extraits d'une Lettre de M. de ——— traduite par M. de Bougainville inclus dans l'autre.*)

“L'idée de cette lettre est de prouver que si les Français se donnèrent le soin d'encourager le commerce et les manufactures il ne dépendrait que d'eux de s'emparer de tout le commerce des Anglais avec leurs Colonies Américaines et que tous les efforts de l'Angleterre pour y mettre quelque empêchement seraient inutiles.—Elle dit “Pendant plus d'un siècle nos diverses Colonies ont eu très peu de correspondance entre elles; occupées à se former et s'établir, elles ne visaient qu'à elles-mêmes. Les Gouvernements d'ailleurs sont différents, les loix, la Religion souvent, & le commerce y contrastent. De là leur peu d'union; elles subsistaient l'une à côté de l'autre sans presque se connaître.

Mais depuis cette guerre les colons se sont rapprochés de mœurs, d'intérêts, & de sentiments; obligés de fournir leurs contingents, ils se sont trouvés rangés sous le même pavillon; des liaisons, des correspondances se sont formées.

* Louis Joseph de Montcalm Gozon, Marquis de St. Véran (1712-1759) commander-in-chief of the French troops which defended the Colonies of France in North America. He was killed at the siege of Quebec.

Coup décisif pour nous, parceque nous serons unis & que nous nous tiendrons par la main; on respectera nos droits, parcequ'il serait dangereux de les attaquer; le haut prix des denrées d'Angleterre surchargent si fort nos colonies qu'elles seront obligées à recourir à l'étranger, c'est-à-dire à ruiner l'Angleterre. Les pauvres prendront le devant, les riches suivront. J'espère que votre cour profitera de l'avis."

(Suite de la première Lettre.)

L'Article sur lequel mon correspondant s'est égaré c'est l'établissement des manufactures en Canada. Gardons-nous sur ce point d'imiter la folie de l'Anglais. Les Colons ne sont si indocils que parcequ'ils commencent à sentir qu'ils peuvent se passer de lui. Ils possèdent chez eux des manufactures de toute espèce & seront bientôt en état d'en vendre à la terre totale au lieu d'en faire venir. Pour les Natifs du pays laissons les à leur vie errante & laborieuse dans les bois avec les sauvages & leur exercice militaire, ils en seront plus braves, plus capables de servir l'état & plus fidèles à le vouloir.

Vers la fin de la lettre et parlant de la possibilité de la perte de Canada, il recommande à sa Cour de s'assurer par la Paix, de Louisbourg ou de quelque Isle voisine qui pouvait servir également pour la Pêche & pour entrepôt pour introduire les manufactures Françaises dans les Colonies Anglaises. Idée dont la France malheureusement ne s'est pas départie.

(Lettre 2^{me}. M. de Montcalm à M. de Bernier.)

Les sentiments des Colonies Anglaises pour la Patrie sont si peu cimentés que si je le jugeais convenable à nos intérêts je me ferais fort dans peu de faire signer la neutralité à une partie d'entre elles.

Il s'appuie sur l'indiscrétion de l'Angleterre de n'avoir construit des forteresses que dans l'intérieur des Provinces.

Faute énorme de l'Angleterre de ne pas les taxier dès le commencement."

(Lettre 3^{me}. Du même au même.)

Touts en général ne se soucient guère du Roinidu Parlement d'Angleterre—aussi auraient-ils dès longtemps secoué le joug, si la crainte de la France n'eut été un frein pour les retenir, chaque Province serait devenue une petite République. Si l'ancienne Angleterre après avoir conquis la Canada scavait se l'attacher par la politique & les bienfaits, si elle la laissait à sa Religion, ses loix, sa langue, ses coutumes & son ancien Gouvernement; la Canada divisée dans tous ces points d'avec les autres Colonies, n'entrerait jamais dans leurs intérêts, ni dans leurs vues. Mais au contraire si elle veut la mettre sur le pied des autres, elle deviendrait bientôt la même à son égard.

(Remarque.)

Ces lettres sont en général si prophétiques qu'on les soupçonnerait en quelque façon d'avoir été écrites après coup.

CHARLES TOWNSHEND to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1760, October 19. Adderbury.—If I had not been absent from Adderbury when your letter came, your Lordship would have heard from me by the return of the post, and if your letter had not come so late in the year, and at a time when I am confined by a multiplicity of business to this distance from London, I should have brought you my answer to your summons myself; as it is, I have lost the satisfaction of being of your party, which mortified me exceedingly, as I know I should have passed my time with the very people, in the very manner I mean and wish to live. Lest you should think I make you a general excuse, I must desire leave to tell you that Buccleugh being now fourteen, I have been lately obliged to attend him at Eton, and lawyers in town, several times, and that I have not yet the least command of myself for two days; such a variety of forms has the preciseness of ancient Scotch law created, and have the arts of modern practice preserved, upon the appointment of a sole guardian in that country; my attendance is the more necessary, as these forms must be executed within a certain time fixed by law.

I beg your pardon for troubling you with such matters, but I should be still more vexed if you did not believe it is not in my power to be with you; which of our friends is with you? I hope Vaughan, for Brickling will be excellent winter quarters for him at the close of his Welsh campaign. Vernon is gathering berries from Prince Ferdinand's laurels; and Stanley, I fear, is engaged in launching the formidable expedition. My brother tells me nothing is so magnificent as Brickling, nobody so popular as the master of it. I foresaw it would be so. I knew you would bring back the county to a sense of better things than political jealousy and perpetual cabal, and that universal civility and a purer taste in life would gain everybody. I read in the prints that Mr. Harbord is married, and if his marriage pleases you, or, in your judgment, strengthens his situation, I shall be pleased with it also, let me take this opportunity of saying that I rejoice much in your own late escape; the person would have disappointed you; the fortune would to you have been no recompence; the manner in which it went off proves you have no reason to lament it; and you have acted throughout with sense and temper. I should make another excuse for this topic; but I hope you will make it for me, and that the hearty love I bear you will explain and justify the liberty it takes.

I beg you will present my best affections to all our friends at Brickling, my heart is wherever they are; for I have hung up my arms at the St. Albans, whether it be in town or country; if Stanley be with you, tell him Lord Lyttelton has just opened Haggley House to the county of Worcester. The invitation was universal to all ranks and all parties, and the plan really magnificent. The county accepted. They all came in, and my Lord at last was the only absent man. Some untoward accidents happened in the execution: for in the first place my lord forgot to have the beds aired; in the second, he classed the company according to their

birth and reputed estates into three divisions, and in the last place Mr. Lyttelton, destined to have opened the ball with the first person of the first class, mutinied, and would dance only with a smart girl he had brought in the morning from a neighbouring village unknown in her birth, equivocal in her character, and certainly at the very tail of my Lord's third division. Before the dinner was ended, everybody was talking of their private affairs and pedigree; Bacchus's hall was turned into the Herald's office; and the whole company become jealous and sulky. At the end of the three days my Lord's new palace was filled with disgust and complaints, and he is said to have confessed at last that distinctions are not prudent.

I hope we shall meet soon in town, I suppose at Newcastle House on the birthday.

HARBORD HARBORD* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

- * 1761, March 28. Norwich.—I doubt not you will be as much pleased as surprised to hear of the late transactions at Norwich. Mr. Bacon† and myself at our coming hither found all the Corporation, Quakers and principal manufacturers warm and hearty in our joint interest, many of the middling tradesmen disgusted with us both, but upon application nine out of ten promised to support me. Robt. Harvey and Preston were upon our first arrival talked of as candidates by many of the very low freemen, the former declared to us both he had no intentions of offering himself, the latter hesitated and ask'd the advice of the Gregorians assembled by notice in full chapter, who all declared they were engaged to support me, and much more than the majority said the same as to Mr. Bacon. Upon this Mr. Preston took all opportunitys of publickly and privately declaring he would support Mr. Bacon and myself. On Tuesday and the two following days, Alderman Thompson was a good deal talked of as a candidate, but his being one of the deputation from the Hall upon the 6th of November to invite Mr. Bacon and myself to represent that city, his public and private conversation from that time till within this week, made it appear impossible he should be so treacherous. However, on Thursday evening about seven, printed bills were dispersed all over the town requesting votes for Thompson and Robert Harvey, public houses open'd and they busy running about the town asking votes; the managers who had canvassed the Town Quakers and all, Mr. Rogers, Tom Harvey, Ives, etc., were much alarm'd for Mr. Bacon, as many of their workmen had declared they would give only single votes, and Thompson had directed most of his people to vote for himself and me. On Friday morning when the Mayor, Mr. Bacon, etc., went down to St. Andrew's Hall, the other two candidates came with their mob up to the Town Hall and waited for Mr. Bacon and myself. A poll was directly demanded and our friends went to work. About

* Afterwards Sir Harbord Harbord and created Lord Suffield in 1786.

† Edward Bacon of Erleham (or Earlham), near Norwich.

five in the afternoon Harvey and Thompson proposed adjourning the poll till this day, but gentlemen prov'd so warm upon thus keeping the town in a flame, that at length they agreed to close the booths and upon the casting up the numbers they were for Harbord, 1,729; Bacon, 1,507; Thompson, 715; Harvey, 501. Not a gentleman that I know of will be found upon the poll of the two latter gentlemen, and we gave no money nor open'd any house, had no country votes, and Thompson had, as we have since discover'd, been picking them up for ten days to the number of, I fancy, 60 or 70. Mr. Lillington and some others were at first so alarm'd for B——n, that they refused some single votes and at length Crowe, Woods, Ives, Tom Harvey and others went down to the booths and used all their influence and interest with their respective workmen for the double votes, the steady and resolute and candid behaviour of the Sheriffs preventing any rioting, and I assure you I have seen more at this place when there was no opposition. The principal gentlemen are so exasperat'd at the behaviour of T———n that if he is already in the list of justices and is not struck out and if we can possibly do not get him (*sic*) out of his employment it will prejudice our interest here more than anything that I know of that can happen.

CHARLES TOWNSHEND to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1761, June 24. War Office.—I am sorry I was not in town when your Lordship's letter came to my house lest you should have found any inconvenience from the delay it has occasioned.

Your Lordship has only done me justice in your immediate contradiction of the reports of my having interfered upon the vacancy at Norwich and the competition of Mr. Gay and Mr. Thompson, for I very solemnly assure you that I have never heard the subject spoke of but occasionally by yourself and very lightly by my own family, and have never had the least or the most distant conversation upon it with the Duke of Newcastle or any other person in the Administration. May I in return beg the favour of you to put such of your Lordship's friends as have thus used my name so very positively and with such little justification upon naming when and from whom they have in fact ever heard such a report? I could add to this general representation of the truth of my conduct upon this occasion, how little my temper, situation or any passion I have lead me upon such contests to take any interest at all, much less would they suffer me to act an unfriendly part towards you, with whom I live, thank God, and ever have lived, in a degree of friendship against which matters of this nature, I fancy, will never by either of us be put in the ballance.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1761, October 27. War Office.—As to Lord Buckinghamshire's letter of recommendation of Gardiner, whom he is unwilling to do

anything for unless Lord Buckinghamshire is really desirous of serving him. On learning that he is, he gives him a commission.

“The club meets on Saturday; it will meet with more pleasure if you are there. Times busy; war hot; opera thin; Pitt resigned; Vernon lame; Vaughan sanguine. I have given Bellenden a company at your desire.”

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1762, April 13. Wotton.—Expressions of friendship. It is impossible to answer Lord Buckinghamshire's enquiry as to the time when the Prussian subsidy and the vote of credit are likely to be considered in the House of Lords as no day has yet been fixed for their consideration in the House of Commons.

JOHN EARL OF HYNDFORD* to THE SAME.

1762, August 1. Carmichael House.—“As his Majesty has been pleased to honour you with the Embassy to Russia I heartily congratulate your Lordship upon it, and I can make no doubt that you will acquit yourself in that office to the satisfaction of the King and of the Ministry and your friends, of which number I desire to be ranked as a sincere one.

As to the present politicks of the Court of Russia, your instructions must direct you how to act. But as to your domestic and economical affairs I must acquaint you in friendship that during five years of my Embassy I was out of pocket, for 'tis a very expensive Court, and, contrary to common sense, an ambassador must give great entertainments and make a vast show in equipage to be respected. As to your coaches, I would advise you to send them by sea from England, except what you want for the journey for yourself and servants which you may provide you in at Utrecht. But take care to avoid there a great rogue called Prichard, who takes upon himself the character of the King's Commissary, who has cheated many an English traveller and me in particular. You can't do without a German secretary, and if he understands the French language, it will save you a third, for I make no doubt you carry an English secretary with you. The next thing is servants, and I must begin with good cooks and a Maître d'Hôtel, all which you may get at Hannover, and I would advise you to carry as few English servants as possible, except those about your own person, for they are sooner debauched at Petersbourg than at London (*c'est beaucoup dire*). This is very unconnected, but I must for your Lordship put down the articles as they occur to me at the distance of twelve years. Your Lordship may buy horses there of all kinds without being at the expense and risk of sending them thither. Mr. Keith, the King's Minister, will put you in the way of providing your family with all kind of wines and necessaries. I need not give you any caution as to wine or women, for I know your delicacy as to both, but you will be tempted.

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* British Ambassador at St. Petersburg, 1744-1750.

I dare not desire to be remembered to Peter the 3rd, altho' I fancy he has not forgot me, at least he assured me he never would etc. He is a great lover of musick, and if you carry some good fiddles, he's very fond of them." . . .

VISCOUNT BARRINGTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1762, December 17. Cavendish Square.—Tho' you did not lay any injunctions on me to write to you, I think it my duty to inform you of the interesting transactions of your country: I ought to have done it sooner; but till last week I hoped by staying some time, I might send you more agreeable news both to yourself and to me. The die is now cast, and opposition declared; nay actually begun. The Preliminaries have been opposed in both Houses of Parliament. In your House there was no division, tho' the Duke of Newcastle and Lord Hardwick spoke against them. Mr. Pitt came to the House of Commons on crutches and spoke (sometimes standing, sometimes sitting) for three hours and twenty-five minutes; after which he went away, amidst the acclamations of a mob, which had follow'd him even into the lobby. His speech was against the preliminaries, but without violence or personality; declaring he had no connections with any body. The House divided about midnight; 319 for the address approving the Peace, and 65 against it. The Attorney-General went away before the division; but he attended the next day on the report and spoke in favour of the Preliminaries in general, tho' he expressed doubts as to some articles, which he hoped might be altered in the definitive treaty: his brother Lord Royston voted with the Majority. The division the second day against the address was only 63, but if all had stay'd the day before, I believe instead of 65 they might have amounted to between four score and ninety. Such an eminent majority secures administration, and gives it credit as well as strength. Charles Townshend supported the Preliminaries soundly and well, tho' he had resigned his employment the day before. He says he shall continue to support Government till the end of the session, when he will be ready to accept the Board of Trade; but that he disliked the War Office. Stanley made an admirable speech for the Peace. You have heard that Strange is Chancellor of the Dutchy in the room of Lord Kinnoul, who resign'd (as he says) on acc^t of the usage of his friend the Duke of Devonshire. It is said Ellis will succeed Townshend and Rigby succeed Ellis; and it is thought Lord Granby will be Master of the Ordnance when he comes home. It is expected that they who voted in the minority the other day will be turn'd out before the holydays.

Let me add a word about myself. I support Government, which I should do with the utmost satisfaction if the Duke of Newcastle did not oppose it. My motives in separating myself *politically* (personally I never can separate myself from his Grace) may be conscientious; they may be interested. I leave you to judge whence my conduct proceeds; you know me and

my actions for many years past. The Duke of N. continues to treat me with friendship and kindness. I was very explicit with him from the beginning; and he knows there never was a time, when even *he* could make me do what I thought wrong. His Grace had such offers several times in the summer, and particularly at the end of it, as I think he could not have refused, if he had not been govern'd and flatter'd by the Duke of Cumberland, who has undone him, and many of his best friends; but this is intirely *inter nos*.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1763, July 18. Downing Street.—Tho' the constant scenes of busyness which I have been engaged in for some time pass'd have scarcely allow'd me to perform the common offices of civility to my friends, yet I trust that they know me too well to believe that I can be wanting in those of friendship. Many changes have happen'd in my own situation and that of the public since we parted, but none can happen in my sincere regard for you or in my desire to express it more effectually than by the assurances contain'd in a letter. I had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Hobart* as soon as he arrived in England and for the few days that he staid here before he went into the country. The account which he gave of himself made his return hither very necessary, but I flatter myself that he will not be oblig'd to go to Spaw to perfect his recovery. I rejoiced extremely to find from him as well as from your own letters that the severity of the winters in Russia has had no ill effect upon you. Your return to Petersburg will, I hope, open a more agreeable and more active scene to you and take away all complaint of want of occupation. Such at least are the expectations that we form here, in consequence of the information which we receive. For my own part I most sincerely wish it from the persuasion I have that whenever you enter upon any busyness of importance you will in the transaction of it do honour to yourself and service to the publick. You was fully apprized of my sentiments upon that subject my dear Lord, before you left England, and I can only say to you that they still continue in all respects exactly the same. As you seem not to wish to have any body appointed Secretary to the Embassy in the room of Mr. Hobart, I believe I may assure you that no body will, at least for the present. Indeed I perfectly agree with you and enter into your reasons for not wishing it. I am extremely sensible to the many kind expressions towards me in both your letters, which I shall allways hope to deserve by every means in my power. Adieu my dear Lord, there is no publick news worth the sending you, and if there was you would receive it by your publick dispatches, and as to anything of a private nature relative to the interior of this country, as this letter will probably go by the common post, it certainly would not be a proper conveyance to send it by. . . .

*George Hobart, afterwards third Earl of Buckinghamshire.

LORD BARRINGTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1763, November 17. Cavendish Square.—I have not time to answer two very friendly and agreeable letters which I have lately received from you, but which I shall acknowledge soon in the manner I ought.

The paper herewith enclosed (which is an extract from a letter I have just written) will inform you of the state of publick matters here, which is much better than I expected it would be, and bears a very favourable aspect. I will only add that the House of Lords have come to very strong resolutions against a most obscene and profane book called “An Essay on Woman,” with notes by Dr. Warburton, Bishop of Gloucester. For this breach of the Bishop’s privilege, Wilks the author will be in Newgate after expulsion, if he does not run away, which in his present state he can hardly do.

Inclosure.

1763, November 17. Cavendish Square.—Last Tuesday the Parliament met, and the House of Commons, before the King’s speech was reported from the Chair, took into consideration a Message from his Majesty, on the subject of Mr. Wilkes, stating the impediments thrown in the way of his trial by the decision of Westminster Hall, on the head of privilege. After long debate on various points it was determined that the ‘North Briton’ No. 45, was an infamous, seditious libel, etc. It was also resolved to proceed further on the Message, next day, when the point of privilege should be discussed, and enquiry made whether Mr. Wilkes was the author of that paper, with intention, on proof thereof, to expell him; but, just as the House was going to proceed yesterday on this business, news came that he had been shot thro’ the body, in a duel, by Sam. Martin, late Secretary to the Treasury. Martin had said in a speech, the day before (after mentioning some virulent abuse thrown on him, in a former North Britain) “that whoever was capable in a printed anonymous paper to asperse him by name, was a cowardly scoundrel.” Wilkes the next morning wrote a letter to Martin, acknowledging himself the author of that paper, and they proceeded to Hyde Park, where the duel was fought. The wound is not thought dangerous; but it occasioned the putting off the consideration of the Message, and we went on the Speech. The Address was moved by Lord Carnarvon, and very well seconded by Lord Frederick Campbell. Mr. Pitt spoke with great ability, and the utmost degree of temper. He said he had not altered his opinion of the Peace, which he still thought inadequate to our situation and successes; but that being made and approved by Parliament, nothing more unfortunate could happen than that it should be broken. That it was every man’s business to contribute all he could, to make it lasting, and to improve it; for which purpose he recommended union and abolition of party distinctions as absolutely necessary. He spoke civilly and not unfavourably of the Ministers; but of the King he said every thing which duty and affection could inspire.

The effect of this was a vote for the Address *Nemine Contradicente*. I think if 50,000*l.* had been given for that speech, it would have been well expended. It secures us a quiet Session; and with the help of a division of 300 to 111 the day before, will give strength and reputation to Government, both at home and abroad. I must return for a moment to Wilks, that you may know more of Mr. Pitt's present temper, for which I cannot account. He speaks as ill of him and his writings as anybody; he approved the resolution against his Paper No. 45, except one word: but he is very warm on the affair of privilege, which he insists to have been rightly determin'd by the Court of Common Pleas, and violated by the Secretaries of State. He abused the opinion given by the Crown Lawyers, and treated both the Attorney and Solicitor-General very roughly tho' the former has resigned, and was supposed to be politically connected with him. I know not what to make of this, in all respects, most extraordinary man.

LORD BARRINGTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1764, February 26. Cavendish Square.—You have probably heard of some near divisions lately in the House of Commons, but perhaps you are not inform'd exactly of the points which occasion'd them. The following account will not be unacceptable to you if you have not received a better.

Wilkes was taken up by Lord Halifax on a general warrant to seize the printer, publisher or author of the "*North Briton*" No. 45, together with their papers. Of this he complain'd the first day of the session as a violation of his privilege; but the hearing of that complaint was postponed to the consideration of the King's message concerning him. After Wilkes's expulsion, the complaint was taken up (not in his name, but as regarding the privilege of the *House*) by Sir Wm. Meredith and Sir George Saville. On enquiry it was found that nothing had been done by Lord Halifax or others concerned, but what was warranted by the constant usage of office, from the earliest times, particularly when Lord Townshend, the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Pitt were Secretaries of State; and therefore the House unanimously agreed there was no ground of censure or blame on the present occasion: but the opposition proposed a Resolution declaring such general Warrants illegal, as in truth I believe them to be. The Ministers would not consent to this declaration of the law by one House of Parliament *only*, tho' they did not assert the legality of the Warrants. They said Westminster Hall and the judges there were the best interpreters of law; or else an *Act of Parliament*; and therefore proposed to adjoin the consideration of the matter for four months; which was carry'd at near seven in the morning by 232 against 218. There were in the course of this proceeding several very long days, and near divisions, many persons extremely well disposed to Government and in employment, voting (in what they call'd a constitutional point) with the opposition. I think they will most or all of them come back to their friends: and if this point, greatly labour'd by

active opponents, does not raise more flame without doors than there is an appearance of at present, I hope it will not do Government any real or lasting mischief. As to change of administration, I dare say it will produce none; 'tho' perhaps the Court you are at may receive different information. Wilkes has been convicted on the indictments against him for writing the "North Briton" No. 45, and the "Essay on Woman," a most bawdy and blasphemous performance, so I think it impossible he can ever come over hither. He and his cause are already forgotten by the only friends he had, the mob; and we shall not soon have any similar writings.

Dull politicks, my dear Lord, are a very poor inadequate return for the charming letters you send me from Petersburg, two of which remain unanswer'd; I mean those dated the 27th December and 10th January last. I have communicated them, or parts of them, where it was proper; and my communications were admired. The club is at your devotion, and goes as well as it can do without you. Strange and Stanley have had your messages, love you very much, and talk of writing to you. Our other club held on Sundays is in a very prosperous way, the vacancies have been well fill'd up, the meetings are well frequented, and our friend Johnston gets as many bumpers as he desires. There is an antiministerial club set up in Albemarle Street, at the house where poor Lord Waldegrave lived, on the footing of Whites; but I hear no amusement or vice going on there; so I conclude it will be soon abandon'd. Mrs. Welch lately return'd from Ireland with a fresh importation of beauty, was inform'd against and obliged to give security for her appearance; a bill of indictment was offer'd at the last sessions, but the grand jury had the good sense to return it *ignoramus*.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1764, March 27. Downing Street.—Lady Suffolk has communicated to Mr. Grenville Lord Buckinghamshire's letter from which it would appear that he was desirous to have it at his option whether he should stay at St. Petersburg some time longer, or return immediately, as the situation of his affairs may render it desirable. Mr. Grenville has therefore applied to his Majesty and is able to inform Lord Buckinghamshire that nothing further will be done with regard to the appointment of any other person, or to his recall at the present.

"Lady Suffolk will always prefer Lord Buckinghamshire's credit and reputation even to the joy and comfort of seeing him.

Of Parliamentary transactions it would be difficult to say but a little, and improper to say a great deal."

LORD BARRINGTON to THE SAME.

1764, May 9.—I did not intend writing any more to you, for by your letter of the 3rd of April I concluded you were soon to begin your journey hither, but I have since found reason to believe I was not so near the comfort of seeing you as I hoped and

expected. Lord Sandwich tells me you may have your letters of recall whenever you shall desire them, and that you know you may. I am certain this paper will arrive at Petersburg before those letters, not yet requested; and therefore I send it, full of the most cordial and sincere assurances of my entire undiminished affection for your Excellency. You generally begin with a little politicks and I will (imitating your good example) do the same. The session of Parliament ended very well for the Administration, which has now in favour of its stability the publick opinion. You know how much that opinion will contribute to its stability. George Grenville has done admirably, indeed triumphantly, in the House of Commons. He gains ground every day in the city, a material place for the head of the Treasury. He has not indeed received any compliments *en corps* from the first commercial corporation in the kingdom; but at Bristol, the second, he has been visited, complimented, feasted and honoured with his freedom. He went thither from Stoke with our friend Berkeley, now Lord Botetourt, fifth Baron of England; and he visited his Lordship from Bath, where Mrs. Grenville has been sometime for her health. I wish you joy of Lord Halifax's Garter, an honour, in my opinion, well deserved and well timed. I hope my dear Lord to see it round your leg, while that leg is able to perform all the offices a true knight can require from it. Lord Bute came to town towards the end of the session. His Lordship and his most intimate friends declare he will never more have anything to do with ministry or even office; and they add his perfect satisfaction in the administration now entrusted with the conduct of affairs. My old patron and friend the Duke of Newcastle is gone to Claremont for the summer in good health. I have seen him often this last winter, and Abdiel as I am, have always been kindly received. I believe he does not expect or even intend to be minister again, but he continues very restless. Mr. Pitt is almost worn out with gout, and except where Lord Chief Justice Pratt has been concern'd seems to me rather to have supported than opposed Government. By this time, the Court where you are probably knows how much it has been deceived by misrepresentations from home.

Have you seen a most curious collection of letters published here by M. D'Eon, secrétaire d'Ambassade to the Duc de Nivernois? Wilkes is a child to him in abuse. M. de Guerchy, the Duc de Prâlin and others who are his objects have found him a most dangerous adversary, the more so for his being mad. Guerchy found out that he was visited by Lord Temple and expressed his surprise thereat to Lord Halifax, who made him this answer, "*Que voulez-vous que Milord Temple fasse; il a perdu son propre Wilkes il faut qu'il se prenne au rôle.*" We dare not send this gentleman out of the country, but the Attorney-General, by order, is prosecuting him for a libel against the French Ambassador.

The Earl of Pomfret has at last taken that deep laden rich aquapulca Miss Draycott. . . . You see what middle-aged Lords of the Bedchamber can do.

I must conclude this letter by informing you of poor Jack's death at Paris the 2nd of last month, the heaviest affliction I ever knew. He was seized with a sort of palsey, which ended in an apoplexy. Water and matter were found in his head, occasioned as the learned there believe by a shot when he was unfortunately hit by David Hamilton in Norfolk. I cannot, like old Farington, make a new friend at the Coffee House when I have lost an old one. Come therefore my dear Lord and comfort your ever affectionate Barrington.

SIR WILLIAM HARBORD to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1764, August 13.—(Regrets that he is staying another winter as he now fears will be the case in so severe a climate and so uncomfortable a situation. Details as to what he has done for him on his Blickling estate.)

I can't indeed wonder that your Lordship should be a little mortified at your friend Townshend's deserting you upon a late occasion. However, tho' he carried his point, he gained no credit by it, nor has your Lordship lost any. His breach of friendship to you, which is the light in which it is generally looked upon, is condemned even by those who have no particular regard for your Lordship, and many gentlemen of the first fortunes in your country as well as most others are so dissatisfy'd with the proceedings at the last election that your lordship before another will have no great difficulty in overturning what has been done and taking the lead out of the hands it is in at present, if you think proper to exert yrself, but whether living upon easy terms with all and treating friends and foes upon the same footing will have the effect is a matter of some doubt.

Mr. and Mrs. Harbord who have been here since the adjournment of Parliament and your old friend Lady Harbord join in compliments to your Lordship.

Lord Albermale (*sic*) has bought Quidenham and is to give 63,000*l.* for it.

LORD BARRINGTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1764, September 24. Cavendish Square.—It being understood that Mr. Macartney* is on the point of departure for Petersburg, I thought it useless to write to you any more; concluding that you would not remain in Russia after the arrival of a person who could take care of the King's affairs. But your letter of the 21st August acquainting me you shall not be here at soonest before Christmas, I perceive that I have full time for another letter. It shall be chiefly composed of politicks, for there is nothing else stirring here.

I need not inform you that Monsieur Destaign†, Governor of St. Domingo (a man of great quality who deserved the gallows

* Afterwards Sir George Macartney.

† Charles Hector Comte d'Estaing. b. 1729. Guillotined 1794.

for having broken his parole when our prisoner of war in the East Indies) was pleased to seize Turks Island, one of the Bahamas; neither is it necessary I should acquaint your Excellency how completely the French Court has disavow'd that proceeding, and promised the most ample satisfaction; but possibly you may not authentically be informed that our Ministry have acted in this affair with the utmost spirit, and have been unanimous in so doing. A latter transaction perhaps may not yet have been communicated to you. Some French ships of war went to Newfoundland, where they met Captain Palliser, with a force not quite equal under his command. The French Commadore was preparing to visit the ports of the Island, in consequence as he said of orders for that purpose. This Palliser told him he must not permit, and should resist by force, notwithstanding his wish to proceed in the most amicable manner. The Frenchman at last declared he would not take any step that could violate the peace and every thing afterwards past with the utmost amity. Now it is thought here that in both these instances the French have a mind to feel our pulse, and that perceiving it beats high they have disavow'd their officers. It is thought we shall bring our negotiation with France concerning the money due for keeping prisoners of war, to a good issue; and that we shall receive a large ballance on that head.

I now come to home affairs, and have the satisfaction to assure you that every thing is very quiet both at Court, in the city, and in the country; except at Exeter, where there is a violent spirit of opposition headed by Mr. Heath the Town Clerk, and, as I am told, by our friend Vaughan; who has now some leisure moments from love, which he throws away on country politicks. Poor Legge* you know is dead, and the Duke of Devonshire who tho' very ill went abroad in hope of getting better, is much worse, has lost the use of part of one side by a stroke of palsey, and is thought in much danger. It is the general opinion both of them would be well at this time, if they had continued Chamberlain and Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is still thought Mr. Pitt will not oppose, Charles Townshend wants to make his peace, the minority have neither abilities nor union, and I verily believe they will not have numbers next Session. The Duke of Grafton who since you left us has commenced opposer and orator, lives incognito at Woodford in Essex with Nancy Parsons in a cottage, the only inhabitant of which besides themselves is a maid servant, and a shoemaker's boy comes in the morning to clean his Grace's shoes.

I have before inform'd you that poor Lady Barrington has been long in a declining way. I left her in no sort of immediate danger a week ago, and came hither for a few days, but last Friday she was rather worse and dyed in an hour after her danger was perceived. However it was known by every body but herself that she could not last long. I return to Beckett after her funeral."

* Henry Bilson Legge, d. 23 Aug. 1764. Chancellor of the Exchequer until 1762.

LORD BARRINGTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1764, December 17. Cavendish Square.—In obedience to your commands I again write to you, and I direct my letter to Berlin with great pleasure, because your instruction to do so is a proof that you are soon to return home. I have thought you too long absent for some time, on your account and my own; I hope I shall never more have another uneasy thought about you.

I flatter myself from the flow of spirit and gayity in your letter dated the 13th of last month, that you are well and happy. It was reported here that you were ill at Petersburg. If that be true, I hope you are intirely recovered. May you bring to England all the health and vigour you carry'd abroad; and may you have good employment for both in your own country.

A sketch of the Carte du Pays to which you are coming may be of some use and afford you some amusement. I will begin with its politicks and be short on a dull subject.

Mr. Grenville's ability in the House of Commons last Session, the firmness of the Court during the course of it, the spirit of administration towards France and Spain since the recess, the death of the Duke of Devonshire and Mr. Legge, the outlawry of Wilkes, Mr. Yorke's acceptance of a favour from the Crown and Mr. Pitt's supposed moderation, give the greatest prospect of success, strength and perhaps unanimity in Parliament this winter. You may be assured that the Ministers are perfectly satisfy'd with their Royal Master, and intirely united in what concerns his business. So much for publick affairs.

We have a most admirable first man on the opera stage, Mansoli; our first woman is charming as to person, a good actrice and a pleasing singer. Our tennor is much admired, and Gardini conducts the orchestra. We hissed one set of dancers off the stage the first night; it is said a better set is coming.

Mrs. Cornelys has made Carlisle House the most elegant place of publick entertainment that ever was in this, or perhaps any country. The Duke of York returned from his travels and the Duke of Gloucester emancipated from his Governor, preceptors, etc., amuse themselves there constantly. The latter of these Royal personages seems to have no dislike to the Dowager Lady Waldegrave; and she seems comforted for the loss of our deceased friend, by the general homage pay'd her by the living.

The Duke and Dutchess of Grafton are separated. . . . She has 4,000*l.* a year for herself and the children. The Duke has declared he has no objection to her conduct, but chuses to live alone, having found they could not live happily together. His Grace passes his time with Nancy Parsons, and her Grace lives in retreat. No court, no spectacle, no assemblies. Perhaps when you arrive *antiche pene* may revive also. There is so much similitude between the Duchess and Lady Buckingham that an infidelity may be excused.

I do not recollect anything more worth your knowledge. The opera club is very impatient for its dear president. Clubs put

me in mind of one lately established by the *Jeunesse* at Almacks call'd the *Macaroni*. It has demolish'd young Whites intirely, and old Whites is not without some apprehensions.

Adieu my dear Lord, make haste hither.

P.S.—The Primate of Ireland* is dead, and it is doubted a better Lord Northumberland will return to that country. Will you be a king?

The BARON J. B. DE CHERKASOFF to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1765, Feb. 28 (N.S.). Petersburg.—Expressions of affectionate regret at his departure from St. Petersburg†—the Baronne Elizabeth de Czerkasoff adding a note to the same effect.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1765, May 13. Downing Street.—Notwithstanding the great variety of busyness, in which I have been necessarily engaged, and which still continues to demand more hours than it is in my power to give, yet I cannot omitt expressing to you my warmest thanks for your very kind letter of the 25th of this month. You judge very truly, my dear Lord, that I cannot feel a more sensible joy at the reconciliation of every part of our family, nor more obliged to my friends there at the share which they take in it. As for the political situation and the many extraordinary circumstances which have passed relative to it since I saw you, it is not possible to write upon a subject which requires much more than a letter can or ought to contain, especially from me and therefore I reserve till I have the pleasure of seeing you all that I have to say upon it. In the meantime let me assure you my dear Lord that whatever that scene may be, I have received in the course of this transaction a comfort and satisfaction which I trust will only end with my life, the first part of it from that domestic union which you so kindly congratulate me upon, and the other from those testimonies of friendship and approbation which have so far exceeded, not my wishes indeed, but what I had a right to expect. Let me add too that amongst these none can give more pleasure than the proofs of your kindness and regard to, my dear Lord,

Your most faithfull and most affectionate

GEORGE GRENVILLE.

My best compliments attend Colonel Hotham.

The EARL of BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the CAVALIERA MICHIELI.
(*In French.*)

1765, May 30.—Expressions of friendship and of condolence on the death of her husband.

“Après une absence assez longue dans un pais que les ignorants estiment un pais barbare, me voici de retour chez moi.

* Dr. George Stone, Archbishop of Armagh.

† Lord Buckinghamshire reached London from St. Petersburg 28 March, 1765.

Mon Séjour y a été assez agréable et vous êtes trop au dessus des préjugés pour ne pas me croire quand je vous assure que le genre humain y est à peu près comme ailleurs, les hommes n'ont ni queues ni griffes et les femmes sont très-belles. Il est vrai qu'il leur manque aussi bien qu'aux autres Européens la sensibilité et la *morbidezza degli occhi Veneziani*."

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1765, July 9th. Downing Street.—Though I have not been able to acknowledge the honour of your Lordship's letter of the 27th of last month so soon as I ought and as I should have done at any other time, yet I am convinced by the kindness of it that you think me incapable of neglecting the first opportunity in my power to do what you desire and recommend to my care. The consequence of this I took the earliest and probably the only occasion which I shall have of laying before the King that article in your bill of extraordinaries which relates to your travelling expenses and of representing to His Majesty the justice and reasonableness of making some allowance on that head in your particular case, notwithstanding the general rule and the minute of the Treasury upon this subject. I have now the pleasure to inform your Lordship that in consequence of this representation his Majesty was pleased to signify to me his directions that the sum of one thousand pounds should be allowed to your Lordship for the expenses of your journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow, but as I am informed that £200 has been already allowed to you upon that occasion, if that is true, no more than the sum of £800 can be paid to make up the sum of one thousand pounds in the whole. I have given the necessary orders to have that matter settled before I leave the Treasury which I have reason to believe will be to-morrow or the next day, as I should be glad if possible to have it completely done, that you may have no further trouble about it.

I am extremely sorry, my dear Lord, for the uneasiness which you express at your political situation and at the many disagreeable circumstances which have occurred to you in the course of it. I have felt them for you very sincerely and I hope I need not say that my best wishes and utmost endeavours have at all times been employed to remove or to diminish them. The change which the King has been making for these two months in his administration and which I understand will be declared to-morrow, you will easily see makes it quite impossible for me to be of any use at present to any of my friends. I know not whether you have received any account of the intended arrangements from those who are to succeed me or how far your approbation and support of this new system has been desired and applied for. I may possibly be a very improper judge of the propriety of this measure, but I should be wanting to that friendship and openness with which I have always acted and shall always act towards you if I did not say to you that I am thoroughly

persuaded that it will not tend to the honor and ease of the king, the safety and happiness of his people nor to the particular credit of those who are engaged in it.

The Plan after a great variety of unsuccessful attempts is now said to be as follows. Lord Rockingham, Mr. Dowdeswell, Lord John Cavendish, Mr. G. Onslow and Mr. Pelham to be Lords of the Treasury, and Mr. Dowdeswell to be Chancellor of the Exchequer. Duke of Grafton and General Conway to be Secretaries of State, Lord Winchelsea Lord President, Duke of Newcastle Lord Privy Seal, Duke of Portland Lord Chamberlain, Lord Egmont to continue First Lord of the Admiralty with four new Lords not yet settled who they are or in whose room. Lord Bessborough and Mr. W. Mellish to be the two Postmasters, instead of Lord Trevor and Lord Hyde, the younger Mr. Mellish, who is in Parliament, and Mr. J. Roberts to be the two Secretaries of the Treasury, instead of Mr. Jenkinson and Mr. Whateley. Lord Dartmouth to be at the Head of the Board of Trade instead of Lord Hillsborough. Many other arrangements are talked of, but not finally determined. I have now told your Lordship all that I know and make no comments, because I think them unnecessary. I will not even answer that all this will take effect, because if I am rightly inform'd, it has been chang'd every day and almost every hour. You will hear many other reports of support approbation, etc., but as most of them are false, to my own knowledge, I cannot but recommend to your Lordship to believe none of them till they are confirm'd in a manner which will admitt of no doubt.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1765, July 16. Downing Street.—(Warmly acknowledges his kind expressions of friendship and good opinion.)

I set so high a value on the assurances which you give me of your affection to me as a private man and of your approbation of my conduct as a public man, that I shall certainly use my utmost endeavours to deserve both the one and the other. My best means for the continuance of the latter, must be to persevere in the same behaviour by which I have been so happy as to attain it, and my best title to the former is the sincerity of those sentiments which I have long borne to you.

P.S.—We go to Wotton on Fryday next where we shall be happy to see you whenever you can give us that pleasure, and we flatter ourselves from what you say at the end of your letter that you will find a time to do what will certainly be so infinitely agreeable to us. I beg you will make my best compliments to Mr. Nugent, if he is still with you.

MINUTES for Mr. TOMLINSON'S LETTER to Mr. HARBORD.*

1765, August.—That Lord Buckinghamshire rather chuses to wave his own feelings and the facts upon which those feelings

* See for this political quarrel with the Harbords Lady Suffolk to Lord Buckinghamshire, 9 August, 1764. (*Lady Suffolk's Letters*, Vol. II., p. 289.)

are founded, some of which Mr. Harbord may possibly not be fully acquainted with, as to mention them would be invidious and probably of no utility.

That if Mr. Harbord supposes that he has not already sufficiently prov'd his independency, he will possibly think it necessary to continue to act differently from Lord Buckinghamshire. In which case Lord Buckinghamshire will not readily submit to have it understood that of twelve members which Norfolk sends to Parliament, he do's not recommend one.

It may further be necessary to observe how unnatural it is for two persons who take different parts at Westminster to make a common political interest in the country. That if Mr. Harbord proposes in opposition to Mr. Grenville to support the present administration, in justice to Lord Buckinghamshire he ought to decline standing for Norwich at the next general election in consideration of which Lord Buckinghamshire will exert his influence to the utmost to bring him in for the county.

That the idea of a probable coolness with his neighbours at Gunton has given Lord Buckinghamshire more uneasiness than any misfortune he as yet has experienced.

That Mr. Harbord should consider the weight of property and of parliamentary interest his family together with the whole of Lord Buckingham's must have, when united together in a very short time; and particularly how much their influence must operate both in Norfolk and Norwich, if living in a thorough good understanding they are not obliged to make any declaration prematurely, but offer either Mr. Harbord, or Mr. Hobart to the county, just as the then tempers of gentlemen lead.

That it is mutually for their honour and interest to give each other every publick and private support.

That no two persons can always be exactly of the same opinion and therefore for the sake of consistency it is indispensably necessary that upon such occasions one must give way to the other, upon which supposition it is submitted to Mr. Harbord, which of the two may best expect such a deference.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1765, Oct. 21. Bath.—(Mrs. Grenville's ill health is his excuse for not writing earlier. Her painful and precarious situation fills him with the greatest uneasiness. Extremely sensible of Lord Buckinghamshire's solicitude.) I will certainly write to the Dean of Norwich, who is in Dorsetshire, by the cross post, which sets out from hence to-morrow night, and desire him to do all in his power to promote the change in the living of St. Giles' in Norwich between Dr. Gardener and Mr. Money, and to inform you of the steps which he is able to take in it, being fully persuaded of his hearty disposition to obey your commands as well from the real respects which he personally bears to you, as from the knowledge he has of the interest which I take in every wish of yours, which will make me feel extremely obliged to you for every opportunity of furthering them. As to Spanish Charles

Townshend's opinions which you inform me of, he will allow me to think that they partake a little of a Spanish Rodomontade; at least from the endeavours which it is universally believed have been us'd (though hitherto ineffectually) to dissolve the present Parliament, it does not seem that his superiors are of the same opinion. . . .

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to MR. NUGENT.*

1765, Oct.—Your not having been well is a sort of apology, tho' the most disagreeable one you could have made, for not coming to Blickling. Nor does it seem totaly conclusive as your complaint was not of so acute a nature as to prevent your taking a journey to a house where you were well assured every possible care would have been taken of you. My wife and my daughter's officious attention would have vy'd to relieve you.

Lady Buckingham's partial friendship has long been known to you; partial I must call it as it seems even to exceed mine, nor can you doubt the preferential affection with which Lady Harriet regards you; which though in this instance it may prove her judgement and discernment, yet must make the heart of that parent feel some little degree of anxiety who considers how far such an early disposition to tenderness may hereafter lead her.

I have not heard anything material lately relative to our little masters, tho' general accounts of their divisions, irresolution and inability must reach even the remotest corners. Whatever face of triumph the second-rate politicians who have embarked in the frail green vessel, may display to the publick, I am well assur'd the leaders are fully conscious how little they are equal to their situation, and that they can never wear those new robes, which hang by a cobweb to their shoulders, with honor to themselves or utility to their country.

I have lately received a letter from Mr. Grenville. Reflection but the more convinces me of the calamity England has sustained by his being compelled to quit an office which he is not only the best but the only man in these times duly qualify'd to fill. The candid and the inform'd must lament his retreat, which can only please the interested and the ignorant, or those wretched merchants who living upon expedients make a lottery of trade, and would adopt the same miserable plan for the Publick, which in the end must prove equally ruinous to the General as to individuals.

When avarice or extravagance makes nineteen in twenty deaf to every other consideration but their own momentary advantage, surely the Treasury ought to be directed by a minister who acting from experience, knowledge and integrity, despises popular clamour, resists it with temper and firmness and whose measures, founded on true principles will best be justify'd by their consequences.

* Robert Nugent, successively Lord Nugent, Lord Clare and Earl Nugent,

This is only saying in worse terms what I am persuaded you would give as your opinion ; and I know not why it found a place here except that in writing to a friend my pen is us'd to scrawl what first occurs to me.

(*Draft.*)

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to MR. NUGENT.

1765, November.—Lady Dorothy Hotham¹ intreats the favor of you to inform her particularly what method your father took to cure himself of the gravel, and how long it was before he found any benefit from it.

She would have wrote to you herself upon the subject, if she had not lately been mortify'd by having a letter return'd by a gentleman, and you will agree she ought to be cautious of again exposing herself to such a disgrace. I am glad my letter pleased you ; you stile it 'elegant,' an epithet it ill deserves, unless the artless, yet decent, garb of truth may claim it. You injure me, however, by imagining that any part of it was wrote with an intention to check the career of your vanity in preventing the displaying of that tribute my complaisance paid to it in the account of that decided preference my wife and daughter gave you—fatal rivalship which may hereafter cool them in the performance of the reciprocal dutys of child and parent.

I judged of the election by the representative and could not imagine any merchant who voted for you could be offended at the sentiments you approv'd. I considered your city as a seat of commerce in the noblest and most extensive sense of the word, and that, excepting indeed the narrow circle of the White Lion Club, it would have been as difficult at this time to have found a mean, interested trader amongst the sons of Bristol as it was in the day of Queen Elizabeth to discover a beauty amongst the daughters.

Your account of Mrs. Grenville is but too disagreeably confirmed to me by Lady Suffolk, who has seen her since she came to town. Should the worst happen our friend's loss will be irreparable. As far as long study of that wayward sex has enabled me to analyse the intricate and indefinable qualitys by which their various natures charm and plague, she was the first prize in the marriage lottery of our century.

I love you and yours too well not to enter into all the anxiety you must have felt during your son's late absence in Ireland ; he should for the future confine his gallantrys to England where he may be happy with twenty fine women upon easier terms than with one in that perverse country. You will see me in London in about a fortnight, but in the meantime let me give you one caution:—to insist upon my sister's not communicating your father's receipt to her friends (for she has some everywhere) in the New Ministry. Those gentlemen are certainly gravel'd and it is by no means your business to contribute to their present ease, much less to their radical cure.

(*Draft.*)

¹ Sister to the Earl of Buckinghamshire.

SIR. WM. HARBORD to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1765, Dec. 16. Gunton.—Refuses to sell his Plumstead estate, but is not averse to an exchange.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to SIR WM. HARBORD.

1765, Dec. 21.—Explaining his reasons for having offered to buy Plumstead.

1766.—A packet of extracts from the North American Papers of the 24th Jan.

Short extracts from the following:—

1. Mr. Secretary Conway to General Gage of the 24th Oct., 1765.

2. The same to Governor Bernard of the same date.

3. Representation (dated Aug. 27, 1765) of the Board of Trade to Council relative to the Virginian Resolutions received in Governor Fauquier's letter of the 5th June, 1765.

4. Extract of a Representation (Oct. 1, 1765) of the Board of Trade to Council touching the proceedings of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts Bay.

5. Report of Council, Oct. 3, 1765.

6. From Governor Bernard to Mr. Pownall, Oct. 1, 1765.

7. Governor Franklin's answer to Mr. Cox, Stamp Collector.

1765, Sept. 4. New Jersey.—“All with whom I have conversed seem to think they are as much bound to pay obedience to this Act, as to the Act of Dutys upon Trade and to those other Acts relative to the Colonys which they have heretofore obeyed, and that they ought not to make any opposition till they have first try'd all means of obtaining redress. These also seem to be the sentiments of the sober, discreet men of every province.”

A Packet of Papers endorsed ‘*Relative to North America and the Repeal of the Stamp Act.*’

1. America. (6) Intended Resolutions of the House of Peers, Jan., 1766.

2. North America. *Address.* (In consequence of the above Resolutions.)

3. Protest against the Repeal of the Stamp Act. 11 March, 1766. Signed by the following Peers: Bedford, Coventry, Bridgwater, Dunk Halifax, Buckingham, Wentworth, Sandwich, Marlborough, Trevor, Ker, Leigh, J. Bangor, Waldegrave, Aylesford, Gower, Dudley and Ward, Powis, Weymouth, Scarsdale, Temple, Littleton, Eglintoun, Suffolk and Berkshire, Abercorn, Vere, Bolingbroke, W. Glouster, Thos. Bristol, Ferrers, Grosvenor, Townshend, Hyde, Charles Carlisle. *Copy.*

4. A Duplicate copy of the above.

5. 1766, 17 March. Protest against passing the Bill to repeal the American Stamp Act of last session. Signed by the

above with the exception of the following Peers: Bedford, Coventry, Wentworth, Waldegrave, Bolingbroke, Townshend.
Copy.

6. 1768, Oct. 31. Copy of a letter from Major-General Gage to the Earl of Hillsborough, dated Boston.

7. 1768, November 1. Copy of a Letter from Governor Bernard to the Earl of Hillsborough.

8. 1768, November 1. Copy. Minutes of Council at Boston October 12, 1768. (In Governor Bernard's.)

9. Copy of the minutes of Council at Boston the 17th October, 1768.

10. Copy. Minutes of Council of 26th October, 1768. (In Governor Bernard's to Mr. Pownall of 17 November, 1768.)

11. Copy of the answer of the Justices of the Peace of Boston to the Governor. (In Governor Bernard's of November 1, 1768.)

12. Copy of Governor Bernard's order to Joseph Goldthwaite, esq. (In Governor Bernard's of November 1st, 1768.)

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, June 23. Wotton.—However indifferent I may be in general with respect both to the text and comment upon our present Political Situation, which can only be agreeable to those who can derive pleasure from the prospect of *Changes* founded upon the unhappy necessity of public distress, yet I feel very sensibly the proofs of your friendship in the information which you have given to me of the state of things and return you my sincerest thanks for every part of your letter. I agree very much with you in the greater part of your opinions upon this subject, but I think you seem to over-rate the *little footing* which you suspect Lord Albermarle has gotten and his *Testament Politique* which, unless you have good grounds for it I should scarcely believe is ever likely to be adopted. To be sure the present *Whig Administration* set up in opposition to the Tory and *Jacobite Families* who formed the last Ministry would furnish matter of observation to any curious enquirer into this species of their merit, who should find that they consisted of men descended from *Lord Strafford*, Sir Edward Seymour, King Charles the 2nd, Lord Nottingham, and Lord Dartmouth, with that *true Whig* the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and for their men of busyness and of confidence in the two great Offices of the Treasury and Secretary of State, the two Mr. Burkes, whose Whig pedigree, history and qualifications for this unlimited trust, may be learnt from those who have been lately in Ireland. I should not have mention'd nor judg'd of any man by the Party merit or demerit of his ancestors if the *Whig Families* had not been impudently urg'd to make up for their notorious deficiency in all other circumstances. But notwithstanding all this, and all that I hear from every quarter, I am of your opinion that the majority will not vary essentially till other things vary, or till those public difficulties, the seeds of which have been so liberally sown, shall begin to produce their harvest

and in that case I pity the man whose fortune it shall be to reap them. What the event of it will be I know not. My only care must be to preserve my public opinions and my private honor inviolate that my friends may never be asham'd of me; and this I hope to accomplish because it depends upon myself. I am very much mortifyd to find by your letter, that you doubt whether you shall be able to call upon your friends in Buckinghamshire in your return from the West into Norfolk. Consider only that it is the nearest way and how extremely glad we shall be to see you here; the more so because I own after your kindness to me last year, we have no pretence to ask it, but must owe it entirely to your friendship and inclination. Believe me my dear Lord, these motives will be more than sufficient to carry me to Blickling even without my owing it to you (which I acknowledge with pleasure). I need not say that the hopes you give us of finding Lady Suffolk there would be the greatest additional inducement to us both if we could want any to come to you. But alas the returns of Mrs. Grenville's fits of pain are too frequent at present for us to reckon upon it. We have been at Shortgrove and at Petworth; she had a severe attack at both places notwithstanding which upon the whole she is satisfy'd that she has gained ground considerably, as she has certainly gained strength. Many of our friends have promised us to come here in the course of the summer; amongst others Mr. Nugent who wrote me word that he had seen you and how much oblig'd to you I was for your remembrance of me in your potations. Lord Lorne and Lord Frederick Campbell left us the day before yesterday and we expect Lord and Lady Aylesford and I believe Lord Trevor the day after tomorrow. We propose to go with them to Stowe in 5 or 6 days and I will certainly remember your invitation to Lord Temple, whose inclinations I am fully persuaded would lead him to Blickling, if after the excursions which he has already made and one more into another part of the world, which he has engag'd to make, he can again leave Stowe this summer, which I scarcely think possible, especially unless you can come into Buckinghamshire to tempt him.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, July 1. Stowe.—(Acknowledging a letter from Lord Buckinghamshire at Bath.) I am extremely sensible of your kindness to me in the offer which you make me to bring in any friend of mine at a borough where there will be a great probability of success, but a considerable expense may be incur'd. I am persuaded that I know some friends of mine who will very willingly engage in a reasonable expense with a fair prospect of success, but as I see the impossibility of your writing more clearly and with a degree of certainty, so it is impossible for me till I can explain that matter more fully and in consequence receive an answer upon it, to give any certain answer to it, except to desire you by no means to postpone on my account any immediate

arrangement which the situation of this affair may require, as I am sure what will be most advantageous to your interest will for every reason be most desirable and agreeable to me. . . .

P.S. We came hither yesterday and return to Wotton in 4 or 5 days. My wife still continues to have frequent returns of pain. She joins with Lord Temple in desiring their best compliments to you.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, July 20. Wotton.—Tho' you will have seen from every newspaper and have heard from every correspondent in London that my brother, Lord Temple, returned to Stowe on Fryday and that he had declin'd accepting the office intended for him under the new arrangement, yet perhaps you may be glad to know the outlines of what was proposed to him, and I shall certainly be glad to give you the earliest intelligence which I received of this transaction. The modest proposal made to Lord Temple by Mr. Pitt, whom he saw but once during three days he was in town, was that he should stand as a capital cypher in the most responsible office in the kingdom unsupported by any of his friends, whilst Mr. Pitt, in the sine cure Office of Privy Seal without any risque or trouble, except what he chose, was to guide, nominate and form the whole. As a particular grace to him, he was to be consulted in naming to his own Board of the Treasury, care being taken that if any of Mr. Pitt's friends were left out of it, they should be otherwise as well provided for. There was no change of measures pretended, so that Lord Temple was to come in to support what he foresaw. He could not approve in contradiction to his declar'd sentiment of last session, and as to men, the only change was to bring in some of Mr. Pitt's immediate dependants, who with the rump of the last were to form the present plan of an able Administration. Lord Shelburne and Mr. Conway were to be the Secretaries of State and the Duke of Grafton Lord President. Lord Temple wish'd for *Union* for the sake of the King and of the kingdom, but not for *Obedience*, which he did not expect to have propos'd by one who well knew beforehand that he would not consent to it and to whom in the like case, he would not have proposed it, and as this could attain no public end, and was in itself utterly inadmissable, it put an immediate end to the whole idea. Lord Temple declined expressly to state me for any office whatever, knowing my sentiments, and that I thought it much more for my dignity and honour not to have my name mentioned; so that it cannot be said that this was broken off by Lord Temple upon considerations for his own family. When he mentioned Lord Lyttelton for a Cabinet Council office it was receiv'd with scorn and at 'last as a particular favor to Lord Temple he might have had some office' for the present and have a Cabinet office on some future vacancy, but not now. The King receiv'd Lord Temple very graciously and favourably both the

days when he waited upon him, but you will not wonder that whilst Lord Temple is thoroughly sensible of the King's goodness to him that he should feel a treatment so unworthy and unexpected from Mr. Pitt. This my dear Lord is all that I can tell you, what the further arrangements will now be, I know not, nor can it be very material, as it must be very little different from the former system with the addition of *wisdom, temper and moderation* to the *ability and experience* of the former. Adieu my dear Lord. Our friend Nugent who has been here these 3 days waits to carry this to town with him. (Assurances of friendship. Mrs. Grenville's health still precarious but improving.)

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, July 29. Wotton.—(Nothing to add to the political intelligence of his last letter except what may be learnt from the Gazettes.)

I now write only to thank you for your very kind offer to bring in any friend of mine next Election for £1800,—if not chose to cost him nothing—and to tell you my dear lord that 'I greet your love not with vain thanks only, but with acceptance bounteous.' I am convinced that two or three of my friends will be at a loss whom this proposal will make very happy and I suppose there will be no occasion to declare the name as yet at least, and if not, I should wish not to do it for a little while till I can see how their other endeavours are likely to turn out, as I take it for granted whatever we may hear talked of, that no ministry will put an end to the present well constituted and happily dispos'd Parliament till pretty near its natural death. Our friend Mr. Nugent seem'd to me not well when he was here, and out of spirits, which is a bad sign for some, but I hope both the one or the other will mend soon.

RICHARD OWEN CAMBRIDGE to THE SAME.

1766, Aug. 2.—So far from the Center of Intelligence, I am forced to delay writing till the last moment, that I may gain the freshest news; the consequence of which is that I must write in a hurry as the post is going and jumbling all things together. 'Tis well I did not tell you Lord Chatham was brought to bed or a still greater personage, if such a one there be in these parts.

I have this morning left Lord Suffolk and Col. Hotham. We cannot all together furnish one paragraph of news for your use or entertainment, and I only write to let your Lordship know that I would amuse you if I could and since I can not I must insist and will send you all our acknowledgements and repeat the grateful sense we have of our entertainment in Norfolk.

It seems strange that a man within ten miles of London can find nothing to write to one who is 120 miles distant, but for my part, I live so much out of this sort of talk that I know no more

how these things are come about or what is to be next, than my Lord Bute or any other person devoted to the most recluse retirement. Not one of those whom I call my particular friends have I happened to see.

It is at this instant thundering and raining, I hear Lord Chatham is unpopular in the city already. He is certainly in a very bad state of health. As soon as I know anything worth your Lordship's hearing I will write.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, August 5. Wotton.—As you desire to have an answer as soon as possible upon that part of your letter which relates to the Election at St. Ives, I would not omit writing to you immediately after I have received it, tho' it is impossible for me to do more than to refer myself entirely to you upon that subject. I would upon no consideration put you to the least extraordinary trouble or expense to show your kindness to me by choosing any friend of mine there. I am fully satisfied of your friendship towards me by the manner in which you made me the offer—but if it suits you better upon account of the fresh difficulties which I find by your letter are arising there, to close with the proposals which Mr. Knile makes to you to fix upon some other man, I earnestly desire that you will do so without thinking a moment of what you have writ to me on this subject, of which I shall only remember your obliging intentions. On the other hand, if it were quite open to you and the election could be sure for 2,500 as Mr. Knile states it to you, I believe I could recommend a very good friend of mine who would accept it with pleasure, provided he is not obliged to any further trouble or canvas, except the appearing in the town if necessary a day or two before the election.

I leave this matter therefore entirely to your decision, assuring you that whatever is most advantageous to you cannot fail of being most agreeable to me. As to the other part of your letter I should flatter myself that your Lordship will congratulate me upon *that Union* not taking place with our family on terms of the utmost danger, servility and dishonor which I think would have involved those who would have engag'd in such insolent and insidious conditions in ruin and disgrace. I am very glad you approve of what Lord Temple has done and of my sentiments on this occasion and, I rejoice as an individual, tho' as a true friend to the King and the Kingdom I lament the situation of both, and am firmly of opinion that the event will show the folly and instability of this interested weak and narrow system, on which I will make no further comments, as you now know all that I do about it and will see the rest from the Gazettes and your own observation.

JOHN PATTESON, Mayor of Norwich, to THE SAME.

1766, Sept. 13.—Has the honour of transmitting to Lord Buckinghamshire three petitions, relative to the dreaded scarcity

of wheat, which we are persuaded you will not, my Lord, think it a trouble to cause to be delivered, one to the Rt. Honble. the Earl of Northington, one to his Grace the Duke of Grafton, and one to the Rt. Honble. Ch. Townshend, Esq. I cannot but esteem it a most fortunate circumstance that these petitions will thus under your Lordship's countenance go with so much weight as I make no doubt but will obtain such relief as may be in the power of government to give.

JOHN PATTESON, Mayor of Norwich, to the EARL OF
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, Sept. 24. Norwich.—(Thanking Lord Buckinghamshire for having enforced the petitions from this city.)

I have had a letter from the Treasury requiring the prices of wheat for three market days last past, which have accordingly been transmitted and this gives us hopes that the matter will again be brought under consideration of the privy council. (Encloses the Chancellor of the Exchequer's letters to Lord Buckinghamshire.*)

C. TOWNSHEND† to THE SAME.

I have this moment received an express from the Duke of Grafton inclosing the representation from Norwich. His Grace will not be in town till Thursday morning. In this situation and from the anxiety of our friends, I doubt whether it would not be more prudent because more agreeable to them, if we were to send our answers this evening. In this, you will judge for us both, but I renew the subject least out of kindness to me, you should expose yourself to any supposition of delay. The Duke of Grafton has probably wrote to you, but in his letter to me, he only encloses the representation.

I have some idea that the lawyers have decided that the measure of an embargo would be unconstitutional, and I hear that the Secretary's of State have said in their letter to the city that the prohibition must wait the meeting of Parliament‡, but you could easily learn this from the Lord Mayor who is a Norfolk man and a corn factor.

Gr. Sq. Tuesday morn. Sep. (otherwise undated §).

C. TOWNSHEND to THE SAME.

Gr. Sq. 11 o'clock. Having written you an ostensible letter give me leave now in our natural and more pleasant stile of friendship, to add this codicil, it is to whisper to you that the Council

* See Charles Townshend to Lord Buckinghamshire. (Dated Tuesday morning, Sept.)

† Chancellor of the Exchequer in July, 1766.

‡ Parliament was prorogued from the 16th September to the 11th November, 1766. The Embargo upon the Export of Corn was proclaimed the 26th September.

§ See following letter.

have met upon the subject. I was not present and I am told they decided against any interposition, probably they argued upon the sense of the two last acts taken together, and thought an embargo confined to corn and in time of peace, too bold a measure to advise. With this I have nothing to do, but I will suggest the necessity of another Council. I wish I may catch the sight of you before you return.

C. TOWNSHEND to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

[Undated.]—Upon second thoughts, your Lordship would probably give more satisfaction to the City of Norwich, and I should like it better so far as relates to me, if you would be so good as to inform yourself of Mr. Conway's* public answer to the City of London, when they made the same application, in which I am told it is expressly said that the Privy Council cannot interfere. This would save me the necessity of seeming to discuss the reasons of that decision in a matter not within my office.

JOHN GAY, ESQ. to THE SAME.

(*Endorsed.*) September 1766, 5 o'clock.—We have perpetual alarms and informations of threats, thank God no further mischief has happened in the city. But some has been done in the neighbourhood at Trowse by almost demolishing the house of one Mr. Money there, and speeches given out with threats against Mr. Bacon's at Erleham etc.

Under our present circumstances it would have been happy for us if your Lordship was with us to advise and assist us and I do believe the knowledge of your presence amongst us would awe and restrain the mob, the apprehensions of many are great for this night. We do and will endeavour to do all we can to prevent further mischief. But we really want help, assistance and advice and the sooner we had your Lordship's the happier I think it would be for us all and might prevent further outrages.

Your Lordship's most faithful and most obedient,
J. G.

Hear a malthouse by Conisford Gates just now fired.

LORD BARRINGTON to THE SAME.†

Cavendish Square, Sunday night.—I am this moment sending by express orders for two troops of dragoons to march from Colchester to Norwich to assist the civil magistrates there. It may be useful to acquaint you that let the call be ever so urgent I can send no further military aid into Norfolk, for the troops of the whole kingdom are employ'd and we have not enough by one

* General (Henry) Seymour Conway, Secretary of State.

† This letter is endorsed. *Norwich Riot, September, 1766.*

quarter. I know your weight, authority and spirit ; I also know your discretion, my dear friend, and I am certain if this hint does no good, it can do no harm.

Adieu, in great haste, but great affection,

BARRINGTON.

I enclose this in my despatch to the Mayor of Norwich.

LORD BARRINGTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, September 30. Cavendish Square.—It is fortunate that I wrote to your Lordship by my express to the Mayor last Sunday, for by that means you have the earliest notice of my inability to send any more troops into Norfolk. All we have are disposed of, and we have occasion for 30,000 more at least to keep the mob of this country in order. I have foreseen and foretold the circumstances we are in above six weeks ago. I can blame nobody within that period ; but God forgive and amend those who have contributed to our present anarchy ; a charge from which no party or faction among us is exempt. I am happy to hear that you are going to Norwich, for I know how much good a man of your quality, spirit and discretion may do.

P.S. The troops have all had orders to obey the civil magistrate, so what there is may be disposed of where most wanted. I know how inadequate the force is to the need, and lament to the last degree that I can send no more. I need not desire you to keep our poverty unknown as much as possible consistent with the circumstances of your situation. The mob is up in my own neighbourhood. I have no troops to send, but I am going myself to see whether an English gentleman who has never injured his neighbours cannot influence them now in their madness.

JOHN NORRIS, High Sheriff of Norfolk, to the SAME.

[No date.]—I have but now finished my morning ride—just 3 o'clock—and am not able to mount my horse again and go as far as Blickling ; were I to order my carriage at this late hour I know not when I should return ; I mention this that your Lordship may see with me the impossibility of my waiting upon you. I think myself obliged to your Lordship for your friendly notice to me of a matter, the communication of which the Mayor seems to have alone entrusted to your Lordship.

Upon reading your letter I resolved upon the following scheme—to order the chief constables of my own hundred to despatch immediately their precepts to the several petty constables, commanding them to be at Lenwade bridge to-morrow morning before 7, there to join me, who with God's blessing will in person be at the Fair ; they are to take their constable's staves. Since I formed my design I have recollected that this is the very measure prosecuted in London under similar circumstances, and it will be a high satisfaction to me to have my adoption of the same conduct approved by your Lordship and the gentlemen at your house. If the scheme is

contrary to that formed by your Lordship and the gentlemen with you, I hope you will be kind enough to me to remember that I could not avail myself of your and their advice and yet that something was to be done forthwith.

Your Lordship and the gentlemen have, I presume, as magistrates, an unquestionable authority to direct the like kind of precept with mine to the chief constables of your respective divisions, on the supposition I mean of the measure itself appearing an eligible one. I could wish that we could all unite our warlike strength within two or three miles on that side of St. Faith, and if your Lordship can think of any plan convenient for us all I shall not fail to attend.

My wife's and my respects to Lady Buckingham.

W. W. BULWER to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Heydon, Wednesday.—Upon my return home I was informed that a mob collected from the neighbouring parishes had assembled themselves at Cawston and that they intended to proceed to Marsham, where a large party from Norwich was to join them, that their intentions were afterwards to divide themselves into partys and to scour the country. I thought proper to give your Lordship this piece of intelligence, and I beg leave to know what steps your Lordship intends taking upon this occasion as I should be happy to concur therein.

(*Endorsed*: Oct. 1766.)

To the LORD VISCOUNT BARRINGTON.

1766, October 1. Norwich.—In addition to the facts we laid before your Lordship on Saturday, we beg leave to acquaint you that the mob, after destroying the corn mills, actuated with fresh fury, proceeded into many parts of the city, and both on Saturday night and Sunday broke open houses, destroyed furniture, fired a large granary, threw corn, flour, etc., into the river, and were guilty of every outrage which popular madness could suggest. During this time and in this extremity the magistrates and inhabitants exerted themselves to the utmost and have had the good fortune to disperse the rioters, near thirty of whom are apprehended and secured, who after disabling the engines which supply the inhabitants with water had threatened the destruction of the city by fire.

We beg your Lordship to accept our thanks for the honour of your letter to the Mayor. Nor can we with too much gratitude acknowledge the readiness with which your Lordship ordered us the assistance of the military. The inhabitants being nearly worn out with the fatigue of continually watching and patrolling the city both by night and day and using every other means of preserving the public peace are this forenoon made very happy by the arrival of two troops of the Queen's Regiment of Dragoon Guards, commanded by Capt. Innis, who will now afford them a respite, and that quiet and tranquillity which with so much

difficulty they have recovered. At the same time we return your Lordship our sincere thanks for this seasonable relief, it would be extremely ungrateful in us to omit mentioning in the most respectful manner the assistance and countenance which we have received from the gentlemen of Norfolk, and particularly from the Earl of Buckinghamshire, who on the first notice of this unhappy affair instantly came hither and did us the honour personally to assist us in putting a stop to the insolence and madness of the daring multitude, and by his appearance and counsel greatly contributed to restore peace and quiet amongst us.

(Signed by about 40 of the magistrates and principal inhabitants.)

JOHN PATTESON, Mayor of Norwich, to the EARL OF
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, 1 October. Norwich. 2 o'clock, afternoon.—Is encouraged by the eminent part which the Earl of Buckinghamshire has taken in the suppressing of the late riots to beg his opinion as to the propriety of the inhabitants of Norwich addressing his Majesty with their thanks for his late Royal Proclamation ordering an embargo. They are the more anxious to do this as mention was made in the introduction to that proclamation of an address for relief which went up from Norwich as well as London and Bristol. Two troops of dragoons are this minute arrived. Thanks Lord B. for his undertaking to recommend that Norwich be supplied with flour.

J. GAY to the SAME.

Sunday morning.—The insurrection here began yesterday in the afternoon between 1 and 2 in our Market Place by a tumultuous assembly of disorderly persons driving the country people away and overturning the provisions they brought. I had not then left the Hall, where I had been with the Mayor, etc., at the usual court, and with him, Sir T. Churchman, Harcourt, and one of our sheriffs, who happened to be there, went immediately amongst them to appease them and prevent further mischief, but in vain. We were obliged for safety to retreat to the Hall. We sent to others to come there to us, and immediately drew up, printed and dispersed the enclosed. This had not the effect we wished; mob increased; great threats. We had the proclamation read in seven different places. The mills here (called the New Mills) which supply us with flour were soon after attacked by the mob. Bags and sacks of flour were cut and thrown into the river, the buildings unroofed and greatly damaged. Most of the bakers in town visited by the mob, their windows broke and persons threatened. We have no military assistance. About 5 an express sent to Lord Barrington, Secretary at War, requesting immediate assistance, as we know not where this will end, or how it may cause disorderly people from the country to join the mob here, who threaten the neighbourhood in the country. I

remained in the Hall with the Mayor, etc., and many of the principal inhabitants till near 1 this morning, where we planted a guard to preserve the Militia fire-arms lodged there. All our constables charged, and a double watch in the night, and the best precautions in our power used in this confusion. There has been no mischief in the night, but hear of many parties of mob in different places. Am just now going to the Hall to meet the Mayor, etc., and consider what best to do for the present. Mr. Addey holds his feast to-morrow. Could wish your Lordship might come, which may have good effect, his time of dining apprehend to be between 2 and 3.

(*Endorsed*: Oct. 1766.)

LORD BARRINGTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, Oct. 2. Cavendish Square.—I return you a thousand thanks for the early and good news you send me. Norwich has the singular honour of reducing a mob without military aid, an example which I hope other places will endeavour to imitate. Though you ascribe all to the Mayor, forgive me if I suspect your spirit and good sense to have contributed the most to this event.

I go to Beckett next Saturday, but any commands of yours will be obeyed by Mr. D'Oyly, my deputy. I shall not go before a plan is begun which I think will soon put an end to these riots. They prevail in my neighbourhood and I intend to play the magistrate there.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1766, Oct. 4. Cavendish Square.—I congratulate you most sincerely on the compleat victory obtained under fair auspices against the mob without military assistance. I carry'd the Mayor's letter to Court and shewed it to the King, who was much pleased with it and commended you. The hanging committee, as it is called, were in the ante-chamber, where I communicated the same letter to them all. They unanimously applauded what has been done, and I have at their desire furnished the Gazette with an article tending, I hope, to make others follow your example. Lord Mansfield was particularly your panegyrist. I think a plan has been found which will soon put an end to these riots in the counties of Wilts, Gloucester, Dorset and Somerset, where they have been most troublesome. Pray hang as many of your prisoners as possible.

P.S. The Duke of Northumberland stipulates to expect no place.

The EARL OF SHELBURNE to THE SAME.

Hill Street, Saturday morning.—Desiring to see him. His motive “full of respect and regard.” “I wish I may be able to give as good an account of the mobs in my part of the country as I hear your Lordship is of those in yours.”

Endorsed: Spanish Embassy Office. Oct. 4. 1766.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, Oct. 12. Wotton.—I do not at all wonder that the present Ministry should desire your concurrence and assistance, or that they should offer to you the Embassy at Madrid in the critical state of affairs in Spain; but I am surprised, considering the great importance of the object, after they had given the option of it to Mr. Stanley, as he informed me, so long ago as the month of July, that they should delay the making that offer to you till now. Your honorable conduct has convinced them of the falsehood of that opinion which has been so industriously propagated of late, that everybody is willing to treat with them, which is but a copy of the famous expression of Sir Robert Walpole's, that 'He knew every man's price.' They knew in many instances that this is not true, but if it were, the present patriot Minister has sufficiently manifested that he is ready to pay it. Your behaviour in stopping Lord Shelburne when he was entering into a dissertation upon the situation of the affairs in Spain is at once a proof of your own firmness and determination, and of your candour and fairness towards them. I reserve myself to talk to you more at large on this and many other subjects which are not proper for the post when I have the pleasure of meeting you in London, where I hope to find you a week before the Parliament assembles, as I propose to go to town the very beginning of next month. In the meantime I will only assure you that what you tell me upon that occasion can but confirm me in those opinions which I have long entertained of you and in those sentiments of the sincerest regard and friendship with which I am ever etc.

P.S. (Reports on Mrs. Grenville's health). . . . I take it for granted that your late address from Norwich to the King takes notice of the disorders which have happened there and which I fear are but too likely to continue all over the kingdom, as I do not see how provisions can be *low* whilst taxes are so *high*, or how they can buy *dear* and sell *cheap*.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1766, Nov. 22. Bolton Street.—Though I take it for granted that you must have heard something of what has passed in the House of Commons since you left London, yet, as it is possible that you may not have been informed of it correctly, I send you the inclosed copy of what stands upon our Journals in consequence of my having directed some words of Mr. Alderman Beckford's to be taken down by the Clerk in order to their being censured if he did not retract them immediately. The second set of words contain his first explanation, and are, as I am told, exactly conformable to the doctrines laid down by those enlightened Whig Ministers, the Earls of Northington and Chatham, and Lord Chancellor Camden in the House of Peers the first day of the Session. To these words I likewise objected, and directed them also to be taken down as being, if possible, more criminal than the former. Many arguments were used to palliate, but

not once to justify, these arbitrary and dangerous opinions, but as I insisted that the words being taken down, and I ready to make good my charge, the House was obliged either to censure or approve them, and that if the latter was the case I should think every man dishonoured who should ever set his foot in that House after it unless it were to rescind it, and no one venturing to stake his credit by supporting directly such odious doctrines, Mr. A. Beckford, after three or four hours' debate, thought it safer to give way, and to retract his opinion, and that of his friends in the House of Peers, which you will see done by his last explanation, with which as it contained my sense and nearly my words, I acquiesced. We had not above 100 members in the House, and my friends were all gone except two or three, so that this great point was carried against the present minister by those who act with the Court. Sir G. Elliot, Mr. Dyson and that set of gentlemen spoke strongly against the legality and the doctrine of a power in the King to dispense with it, so did Mr. Burke, Lord Rockingham's late secretary, and Mr. Dowdeswell, and for the necessity of a Bill of Indemnity to *vindicate* the Constitution. What a disgrace is this at the outset of an Administration calling themselves friends to liberty, and what a triumph to you and the rest of our friends in the House of Peers, particularly to Lord Mansfield, who feels it to the utmost extent! Our Bill of Indemnity is to be presented on Monday next, and it is said that the preamble is to admit the illegality of the measure, and therefore the Act is to indemnify *all persons* concerned in it, but I think we shall differ materially with them in the Bill in the Committee. We hear that the three Lords are extremely angry, and indeed I do not see how they will get back with any tolerable degree of credit and of honor when the Bill is brought to your House. There is in general an air of great ferment and uneasiness, which was augmented the same day that this event happened, by the dismissal of Lord Edgecumbe for Mr. J. Shelley. This has produced a meeting of Lord Rockingham and his friends where 'tis said that resignations were determined on and to take effect on Monday, but, however positively they are asserted, I always doubt of resignations till I see them. All I can say therefore is that things appear to be in a critical and uncertain situation in all quarters, the particulars of which it is not in my power to explain in this manner and this distance, as they really change from day to day. Whatever may be the event I would not omit to apprise you of what has passed as far as I can, and then to leave it to your own consideration and judgement. Lord Temple proposes to be in town in five or six days, and so I am told does Lord Suffolk, though I have not yet heard from him. I flatter myself that Lady Buckinghamshire continues perfectly well, and that you are now free from alarms of all sorts. I have but barely room to add the assurances of that affectionate regard, with which I am ever, etc.

Enclosure. Extract of Commons Journal of Nov. 18, 1766 (relating to Mr. Alderman Beckford's words 'that whenever the public is in danger the King has a dispensing power.' Also his explanation of these words).

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1766, Nov. 27. Bolton Street.—I have received your two letters of the 24th and 25th of this month, and in obedience to your directions write these few lines to inform you that the Indemnity Bill is to be read a second time in our House on Monday next. It cannot therefore be sent up to the House of Lords sooner than the Thursday or Friday following, being the 4th or 5th of next month, and may probably be considered then at the second reading on the 8th, 9th, or 10th. I suppose the Commission at Norwich will be closed before the end of next week, and I know of no business likely to come on in the House of Lords before that time; as you therefore insist on my naming a day, I should imagine about Saturday the 6th of next month would answer all purposes. The Duke of Portland, Lord Scarborough, Lord Besborough, and Lord Monson have resigned to-day and more resignations are talked of to-morrow. The rest is all speculation, in a state of uncertainty as great as ever was known.

P.S. Lord Temple came to town on Monday last, and Lord Suffolk comes on Wednesday next.

JOHN PATTESON, Mayor of Norwich, to THE SAME.

1766, December 8. Norwich.—(Thanks for continual attention to the concerns of this city.) I have communicated Lord Buckinghamshire's application to the Secretary at War to some of my brethren, who all join with me in opinion that some additional troops would be very proper and very serviceable at this juncture, and particularly to have them here before the time of execution of the unhappy convicts.

We are at present perfectly quiet and much less murmuring than could be expected, which is to be attributed entirely to the exceeding great candour shewn by Sir Hen: Gould.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to THE SAME.

1767, Jan. 27. Bolton Street.—I know not how it happened that your kind letter of the 19th of this month did not come to my hands till yesterday, a week after the date of it. I rejoice extremely to find by it that you and Lady Buckinghamshire are got back safe and well to Blickling, after an attempt, which I I should indeed have been very sorry (and notwithstanding my great partiality to everything you do, I must have thought you much to blame) if you had insisted in any longer. Lady Buckinghamshire's safety and your future happiness is of too much consequence to all those who love you for you to risk them upon any account, much less for an object so uncertain and contemptible as the political state has been, is and seems

likely to continue for some time. I should imagine that notwithstanding that submission which at all other times you will do very right to pay, yet just now you are not bound to obey any decisions of my lady to send you to London one moment before she is perfectly safe and you perfectly easy and happy. You will I think, find nothing here worth your coming for, except the affection of your friends, who at this moment only can wish to be without you. Now for one word of politicks, according to your desire. The Earl of Chatham is still at Bath, and consequently the King's Administration has got the gout and hobbles terribly. Mr. C. Townshend indeed seems to wish to move a little more nimbly and to try to walk a little without crutches. We have had some general talk in the House about East India matters, in which Mr. Townshend has ventured to express his difference of opinion with Lord Chatham and his deputy Alderman Beckford. The committee for enquiring into that busyness is put off till next Fryday fortnight, in the meanwhile Mr. Townshend hopes to gain the E. India Company by kissing them, after the other great personage has kicked them. This negotiation has been on foot some time, and it is said by some will succeed, though others pretend to know that nothing can be done in it, as Lord Chatham is still absent and still in the clouds. Yesterday and to-day we have had some debates in the House of Commons on the estimates for the American troops, and the enormous expense attending them, amounting in the whole to above £400,000, or near a shilling in the pound on the land. This I proposed should be all defrayd by America and the West Indies, after having reduced it near one half by striking off the unnecessary articles. Mr. Townshend in answer to this, though he refused to consent to it, yet held a very strong language that America ought to pay that expense, and disclaimed in very strong terms almost every word of Lord Chatham's language on this subject, treating his Lordship's distinction between *Internal* and *External* Taxes with the same contempt as I did, and calling it *absurd*, *nonsensical* and *ridiculous* to the highest degree, determined, as he said, to assert his own opinions with regard to it, etc., etc. Nor did Mr. Conway, though he spoke on the same subject, say one word in support or vindication of Lord Chatham's sentiments or measures, nor any other person, though they were strongly censured by your humble servant, and though the division upon the question yesterday was 126 to 35, and to-day on the report 75 to 19. *Very empty Houses*, as you must perceive, on so interesting an occasion. This conduct furnishes many speculations, of which I own I am so weary that I wish myself out of the reach of them. I would not however omitt complying with your request, and, having done so, shall think myself well paid if this *long* account instead of a *succinct* one, gives you any amusement or satisfaction. As for Portugal, I know nothing but the daily lye of the newspapers. Mrs. Grenville continues perfectly well and is gone to the opera to-night. She joins with me in our best respects and sincere good wishes to Lady Buckinghamshire.

MR. JOHN ROGERS to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1767, Feb. 5. Blackford.—I am requested to be a Petitioner to your Lordship in this most extraordinary time of dearness and scarcity of corn and other provisions on behalf of the poor of the Town of Plymouth, that you would be so good as to extend a part of Hele's Charity, which is at your disposal to the relief of the poor of said place. The Guardians of the Poor House have ordered a hundred pounds to be sunk out of their fund, to be laid out in the purchase of corn, etc., in order to be distributed at such a low rate as may be thought the Poor may very well afford from the fruits of their labour to give for the supply of their families. (Appeals to his well-known humane and innate disposition to compassionate the Distressed.)

THE REV. MATTHEW WOODFORD to THE SAME.

1767, Feb. 8. Southampton.—Resigned the Rectory of Blickling on the 2nd inst. Proposes the terms of money arrangement to be made with his successor, that he should pay Mr. Gordon, who has served the cure since the 16th of November last, etc.

SIR HORACE MANN to THE SAME.

1767, June 6. Florence.—(As to a Commission Lord Buckinghamshire has entrusted him with.)

I have found a young fellow who I hope will in every respect answer your Lordship's expectations. My first chief point was to be assured of his abilities, for which purpose, not trusting totally to my judgement, I desired Lord Cowper to let him play at his house where the best performers of this place often meet, and they have assured me he is a very good and ready player in concert, that he understands music well, if they may judge by the composition which he produced, though he owned that they had to be retouched by his master, and that the only defect he has which is common to all young men, that of attempting in solos too much and what is more difficult than pleasing. His name is Luigi Fanti, a native of Imola, of about 24 years of age, a scholar of Paolo Alberghi, a noted player there who was a scholar of Tartini* and is a good figure. Before I had heard of him, I had proposed the commission to two or three Florentines of much less abilities than he has, but they rejected the conditions as being much too low, whereas this young man hardly enquired into them, his sole ambition being to get into the world. I could indeed have wished to have had the power of making some addition to those conditions, particularly in regard to cloaths, as it is usual here, not only to young fellows of this sort, but to all upper servants, to give them two suits of cloaths a year besides their wages, but I have stuck literally to the conditions which your Lordship prescribed, assuring him only in general terms that he would meet with encouragement from you according to

* Guiseppe Tartini (1692-1770).

his abilities and good behaviour. He wished much to have the liberty of playing at the theaters, but this too I told him must entirely depend upon your Lordship. He is as impatient to set out as you can be to have him, and contrary to most of his profession who raise difficulties about everything he has consented to go by sea which will not cost one-third of what must have been allowed him for the journey by land. I will therefore write tomorrow to Leghorne to dispose everything for his departure, and I enclose to your Lordship the paper that he has signed, of which he has a copy . . . Besides the violin, he plays on the base, and french horn, and is in every respect very decent and well-behaved.

I am much obliged to the Prince of Brunswick for his kind interpretation of the marks of respect which I endeavoured to show him; he was adored by everybody and if any opportunity should offer, pray mention how gratefull I am for the honour he condescended to do me here.

SIR HORACE MANN to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1767, June 30. Florence.—As to the arrangements he has made for the journey of Luigi Fanti to London.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to THE SAME.

1767, July 14. Wotton.—You will certainly have heard before this can reach you of the negotiation opened with Lord Rockingham by a message delivered to him from the King by the Duke of Grafton on Tuesday last, and that Lord Rockingham communicated this to the Duke of Bedford and his friends at Woburn, who refused to give any answer till they had apprized me of it, for which purpose Mr. Rigby came here on Friday last and Lord Temple, and I saw him again at Stowe on Sunday. The particulars of what has passed cannot easily be comprized in a letter. I have therefore desired Mr. Charles Lloyd, who you know was my private secretary when I was in the Treasury and who was with Lord Temple and me when Mr. Rigby came to us, to relate them to you more fully than I can do by letter. I understand from some of my friends that you was in town, and I have directed him to take the earliest opportunity of waiting upon you that you may not be ignorant of anything I know or of my sentiments upon that subject. You will not be surprized at my having insisted with Mr. Rigby that my name should not be mentioned for any office whatsoever, notwithstanding which, if the measures—and particularly that of asserting and establishing the sovereignty of Great Britain over the Colonies, are such as I can approve, no pretensions of mine shall be a bar to any arrangement for the public benefit in which my friends may be honorably placed. On the contrary I shall rejoice extremely at it and support it in that case out of all office more chearfully than I could in office, and shall be happy if by waving everything of that sort for myself, I may be justified in throwing whatever

weight I may have into the scale of my friends. Every motive has determined me in this resolution in the present circumstances. I have often told you that I would not be forced upon the King by anybody whatever, and that even if I were called into his service, I must judge for myself whether I could engage in it. As I mean to refer to Mr. Lloyd to explain to you the whole of this situation I will only add that my brother Lord Temple agrees most perfectly with me in every part of it, and that I have every reason to be satisfied with the Duke of Bedford and his friends on this occasion, as they have given me the strongest assurances of their regard and good opinion. Everything is in a state of the greatest uncertainty, nor does it seem clear to me to what degree the King means to authorize Lord Rockingham. A week has already elapsed, and not only nothing is done but he has not even seen the King which, if it is intended to succeed, is surely very extraordinary. I will make no more comments, but wait the event, which must soon be determined.

CHARLES LLOYD to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1767, July. York Buildings, Wednesday night, 9 o'clock.—I arrived about an hour ago from Wotton, where I received a letter of introduction to your Lordship from Mr. Grenville, together with his commands to wait upon you and give you an account of the late very extraordinary scene of politicks, which I was the more enabled to do, as I received from him and Lord Temple at Stowe an accurate information of the several particulars. Upon calling at your door all that I could learn with any degree of certainty, was that your Lordship is at Blickling. I trouble you, my Lord, with this one word, to acquaint you that, in conformity to Mr. Grenville's desire, I shall inclose in a packet directed for your Lordship, by the Norwich Post Coach which will set out to-morrow evening, the best narrative I can give, and shall order the parcel to be left till called for at the King's Head in Norwich. I was particularly charged not to trust either any narrative of the late transactions, or even the letter of introduction (which contains some general outlines), to the post. I have recourse to the above method as the only one I know, pressed in time as I am, that can acquaint you both speedily and securely of what Mr. Grenville was extremely desirous should be communicated to you. As soon, therefore, as your Lordship receives this letter you may send for the parcel, as I take it for granted it will be left at the King's Head in Norwich on Friday evening next.

1767, July 16. *Enclosure*.—On Tuesday, the seventh of this month, a negotiation was opened with Lord Rockingham by a message from the King through the Duke of Grafton which was delivered at a meeting held at General Conway's house. After some previous compliments the Duke of Grafton told Lord Rockingham that the King wished that Lord Rockingham and his friends might form his Administration, and that he intended his Lordship should resume the office of First Lord of the Treasury. Lord Rockingham

having asked whether he was at liberty to communicate this to others besides his own friends was answered that the question had been foreseen, and that he might communicate it, but it seemed intended that this was meant to the Duke of Bedford and his friends only. The Duke of Grafton made an offer of himself to serve under Lord Rockingham, and expressed some hopes that the *remains* of Lord Chatham's friends might be treated with some indulgence. Upon being desired to explain himself he mentioned *the Chancellor*. Lord Rockingham in the account of this conference which he gave by letter to Lord Albemarle, speaking of this intimation concerning the Chancellor, says: "But your Lordship knows my sentiments so well upon this point, that my determination is taken though I did not then enter into the detail of it." Lord Albemarle, who was then at Woburn, shewed Lord Rockingham's letter (by his Lordship's desire) to the Duke of Bedford, in the conclusion of which was a proposition from Lord Rockingham to come to Woburn if the Duke of Bedford and his friends were disposed to act with them in Administration. The answer given was that the Duke of Bedford and Mr. Grenville were one, and that he would not proceed without consulting Mr. Grenville. The intended visit was therefore postponed till that was done, and Mr. Rigby (who, as well as Lord Gower, was then at Woburn) proposed to go to London to enquire whether Mr. Grenville was returned from the west, and to give Lord Rockingham the meeting that evening, which he did accordingly, and repeated to him their resolution not to do anything without consulting Mr. Grenville and that they were determined not to be separated. In consequence of this Mr. Rigby went to Wotton on Friday the 10th, and assured Mr. Grenville in the strongest terms of the Duke of Bedford's regard and union with him both in system and in principles, and his own determination to cultivate it to the utmost. He said he had told Lord Rockingham that neither the Duke of Bedford himself, nor he as an individual, would ever depart from the ground taken to assert and establish the entire Sovereignty of Great Britain over her Colonies. That he was told in answer, that he, Lord Rockingham, hoped that might be settled to their satisfaction. Mr. Rigby added that Lord Rockingham declared for a wide and comprehensive system, but it is not known that anything, either with regard to measures or men, has been talked of in detail, nor is it certain to what degree Lord Rockingham is authorized. Mr. Grenville, after acknowledging the sense which he had of the behaviour of the Duke of Bedford and his friends towards him, answered, that as to measures his opinions were well known, especially with regard to the capital one of asserting and establishing the Sovereignty of Great Britain over America, in which he was happy to find that the Duke of Bedford and his friends so perfectly agreed with him, that as to arrangement of offices, as no message was sent to him, so he had no answer to give, nor if there had would he have given one without Lord Temple. That he entirely approved of a wide and comprehensive plan for an administration as the likeliest to produce vigor and

permanency, without which no system for the public good could be pursued. That upon these principles he should be extremely glad to see his friends honorably placed in the King's Government and would cheerfully support an administration formed upon them, but that he would support it out of office, and Mr. Grenville insisted that his name should not be mentioned for any office whatever, as it had long been his determination not to be obtruded upon the King. Mr. Rigby went on Saturday the 11th to meet Lord Rockingham at Woburn, Mr. Grenville went the same day to Stowe, on Sunday the 12th Mr. Rigby came over to Stowe and told Mr. Grenville that the Duke of Bedford and Lord Gower were extremely satisfied with his answer, to which Lord Temple agreed in every particular; and Mr. Grenville and Lord Temple both assured Mr. Rigby that no factious or interested views of theirs should stand in the way of any public settlement, which if possible they sincerely wished to see made upon those principles in which Mr. Rigby assured them that they all concurred. Mr. Rigby's language in both visits was as open and as amicable as could be. Mr. Grenville's real wish on this occasion is that his friends could be honourably placed in the King's Government upon principles, which he can neither depart from himself or advise others to leave, and will be happy if, by waving any pretensions of his to office, he might contribute to that great purpose instead of getting an office for himself, which might give jealousy and must lessen his claims for provisions for his friends.

It must be observed that neither Lord Temple nor Mr. Grenville *bound or pledged* themselves to anything. They spoke their opinions upon the two propositions as stated by Lord Rockingham to the Duke of Bedford—the one of a broad, wide bottom of government, the other of adopting proper measures, and particularly respecting America.

THOMAS WHATELEY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1767, July 23. Parliament Street,—I have this moment received a letter by a private hand from Mr. Grenville, in which he desires me to acquaint your Lordship with the particulars of the late transactions in town, the account of which he had but just received at Wotton, and had not then time to transmit to his friends. That which I therefore send to your Lordship will not I hope differ materially from his, as I have been told it by the same person as has wrote to him, and whose relation to me is, that the Duke of Bedford, Lord Sandwich, Lord Weymouth, and Mr. Rigby met the Dukes of Portland and Richmond, Lord Rockingham and Mr. Dowdeswell, by appointment, at the Duke of Newcastle's, on Monday evening. In the beginning of the conference Mr. Rigby read a letter from Mr. Grenville to him, in which he states, as he has always stated, his and Lord Temple's concurrence in the intended comprehensive plan, to be founded on the condition that the measures to be adopted, and

particularly the capital measure of asserting and establishing the Sovereignty of Great Britain over the Colonies should be such as they could approve of. This occasioned some difficulty and altercation in the outset, but the discussion of the subject was at last postponed for the present; and they were proceeding in the business on which they had met when Mr. Conway, being named for an office of nomination, was objected to by the Duke of Bedford, who said he understood that Mr. Conway himself professed the military line; and that continuing him in a civil employment was contrary to the general idea upon which the new arrangement was founded. The conversation ended here that night; and Lord Rockingham desiring the next day to have a second meeting less numerous than the former, it consisted only of his Lordship, the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Dowdeswell, the Duke of Bedford and Mr. Rigby. Then Lord Rockingham mentioned Mr. Conway to be Secretary of State and Minister in the House of Commons. The same objections were renewed and urged more strongly; his Grace besides complaining that so material a part of the arrangement had never been hinted before, and absolutely refusing on every consideration to consent to the placing Mr. Conway in such a situation. Lord Rockingham has positively insisted upon it, and therefore, without going any further, it was found necessary to put an end to the negotiation, each party declaring the other as free from all engagements whatever, as if nothing had passed between them. The Duke of Bedford and Mr. Rigby carried on the conference with the utmost temper and firmness, and acted throughout with the highest spirit, and yet the greatest moderation. Since this conclusion of the affair Lord Rockingham has had a short audience, of the particulars of which your Lordship knows I am not confidentially informed; but, to judge by appearances, the whole affair seems now to be at an end, and speculations upon what is to follow are again as uncertain as ever.

C. LLOYD to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1767, July 23. York Buildings, Thursday.—I was extremely concerned to find by your Lordship's letter which came to my hands yesterday that I had omitted inserting Mr. Grenville's letter in the packet sent to Norwich. Lord Lyttelton, to whom it was enclosed by mistake, is moving about at present from place to place. I have wrote to him at Bristol, where he is expected the latter end of this week, and in the meantime take the liberty of sending you a copy; as your Lordship will already have seen the contents of it in the narrative, I am in hopes that delay will not be of much consequence, especially as you are well satisfied of Mr. Grenville's intention that the earliest communications should be made to you of the late transactions. As your Lordship will have undoubtedly authentic information from other quarters, I will only mention in the general that yesterday Lord Rockingham acquainted the King that he could not undertake to form an Administration. This was the result of two conferences held at

Newcastle House on Monday and Tuesday last, where, after a discussion of the American question, which Lord Rockingham and his friends seemed inclined to leave to the Duke of Bedford's arbitration, they differed on the nomination of the person who was to take the lead in the House of Commons; Lord Rockingham insisted it should be Mr. Conway, whereas the Duke of Bedford contended that he ought to return to his military line. The idea of yesterday was that General Conway would resign immediately. The persons distinguished at the levée were Lord Rockingham, Mr. Conway and Lord Hertford.

Lord Bute's people are in high spirits. Nobody pretends to guess at the event.

Persons present at the First Conference. Duke of Bedford, Mr. Rigby, Lord Sandwich, Duke of Newcastle, Lord Weymouth, Mr. Dowdeswell, Lord Rockingham, Duke of Richmond.

At the Second. Duke of Richmond, Lord Sandwich, Lord Weymouth were not present.

PRINCE OF COURLAND* (PIERRE S. H.) to the
EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Mittau, ce 30 Juillet, 1767.—Expressions of gratitude for the dogs sent him by the Earl.

(*In French.*)

BARON KLOPMANN to THE SAME.

1767, July 30. Mittau.—For fear of troubling your Lordship too often with mine, I waited till the staghounds were arrived, which I hope will make an apology for not having sooner acknowledged your most obliging favour.

The hounds are very fine, and a great present to the Duke and the Prince, who both return their best thanks to your Lordship, desiring only to find opportunity of their acknowledgment for it.

Since the departure of our most aimable Princess, who went to Pirmont about three weeks ago, in order to make use of the waters, our Court seems to be very dull and tedious. We are chiefly in the country, and to repair the hopes of the best company, enjoin the pleasures of the season.

The Polish news will become soon more interesting. The 5th of October the diet of pacification is to begin. In the meantime things are just in such an order, and so far settled, that nothing is to fear any more. The persuasive measures Prussia has taken to explain the disputes of the dissidents to the holy order of the bishops and their party, have had the best effect. The King is in high spirits, more so than he was last winter.

Prince Razivill makes now a quite different figure. He has money, sense and spirits to be at the head of the Confederation, while he had none two years ago. In short he'll enter in all the schemes of the Court, not to forget himself.

* Peter, elected in 1766, Prince of Courland, during the lifetime of his father, John Ernest de Biren, Duke of Courland and Semigalle.

Her Impl. Majesty this most gracious Princess, the wonder and admiration of her age, is come back from her journey. She resides 16 werst from Moscov, called Columna, and according the last advises is gone for a few days to Troitzka, 60 werst from thence.

Now I am at an end of all my politicks. Pray when do you think Mr. Hans Stanly will travell away? or who is to be nominated in his place, for I should be extremely glad to know beforehand something about his coming this way, as well as be much pleased to shew him all possible services and politeness in my power.

Supposing Sir George* being returned by this time, I must beg as a most particular favour of your Lordship to assure him of my duty and regard, wishing to be soon favoured with his.

Fearing now to tire too long your Lordship's patience, I beg leave to assure you of my most humble regard and sincere attachment, and desire not to forget,

Your Lordship's, etc.

CHARLES LLOYD to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1767, August 18. York Buildings, Tuesday.—Your Lordship's letter of the 28th of last month was sent after me to Derby, whither I was gone upon an excursion into the north, and from whence I am just returned. Mr. Grenville, I find, received information on Saturday last that the Duke of Bedford had that day told the Duke of Marlborough at Blenheim that the Duke of Newcastle had very lately informed him that the present Parliament would certainly be dissolved, and that the time fixed for declaring it was at the next prorogation on the 31st of this month. The Duke of Newcastle was certainly not unlikely to have early intelligence of such a measure if intended, and yet I do not find this report current here; I heard it indeed to-day from a person to whom Lord Vere mentioned it, quoting Lord Charles Spencer for his authority, which your Lordship sees is derived from the source of intelligence already mentioned. As you desired to know what passed, I thought it not improper to state to you the degree of information received, and you will from hence give it its proper weight. I shall go to Mr. Grenville's on Sunday, if in the mean time any thing material comes to my knowledge, I shall not fail to transmit an account of it to your Lordship.

P.S. Lord Frederick Campbell is certainly to go to Ireland as first Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant.†

THOMAS WHATELEY to THE SAME.

1767, August 18. Parliament Street.—Your Lordship's commands to me upon a former occasion to send you any news which

* Sir George Macartney, British Ambassador to St. Petersburg, 1765-1768, in succession to the Earl of Buckinghamshire.

† George, Lord Viscount Townshend, appointed August 12, 1767.

was material, is the reason of my troubling you now with a piece of intelligence which may be important if it should prove true, and of the credibility of which your Lordship will judge when I have informed you of the authority on which I repeat it. It is a letter from the Duke of Newcastle to the Duke of Bedford, informing him that the Parliament will certainly be dissolved, and that the dissolution will probably be notified at the next Prorogation, which must be before the 31st of this month. It is probable that such a measure should be adopted; it will certainly be kept as secret as it can be; the Duke of Newcastle may very possibly have early notice of it; he is a good judge of the authenticity of his information, and he is absolutely positive; but on the other hand, I can learn no trace of it from any other quarter. It rests therefore solely on that authority, but that is generally in these affairs so good, that I would not defer apprizing your Lordship of the intelligence such as it is by the only opportunity I shall have, as I am just now going out of town, and it will not be in my power by another post either to confirm or contradict the news.

P.S. It is the more singular that nobody has yet heard of this news, as the Duke's letter was written so long ago as last Wednesday.

THOMAS WHATELEY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1767, August 21. Nonsuch Park.—As I have very accidentally had an opportunity, tho' in the country, to learn the grounds upon which the Duke of Newcastle gave that intelligence to the Duke of Bedford, which I took the liberty to communicate to your Lordship by last Tuesday's post, I think it incumbent upon me to trouble you with a few lines to inform you that his Grace did not write that letter upon any information which he had received, but merely upon speculation. That speculation, however, seems so well founded to some, for whose judgment I have the highest deference, that they are firmly persuaded the measure will be adopted, but as yet no positive facts are known upon which to support this opinion. The reasons they alledge incline me to expect it, but as I had given your Lordship a more positive information, I thought it necessary to apprize you that the noble Duke in his assertion intended only to convey an opinion not to affirm a fact!

C. LLOYD to THE SAME.

1767, Sep. 10. Yorkbuildings. Thursday.—Lord North came to town yesterday, saw the D. of Grafton and was at the King's Levée. It is generally said that he has refused the Chancellorship of the Exchequer and as generally known that he will accept, if compelled by the alternative of taking that office or of having none at all. Lord Guilford is in a dangerous state of health, this may possibly operate on Lord North's present conduct. Lord Mansfield was in the Closet yesterday an hour and

an half. The King did not set out till seven this evening for Richmond, the Princess of Wales was with him till the instant of his leaving the Queen's house. Lord Bute it is said is come to Town so ill as to be attended by three physicians. The Duke of Bedford and Mr. Rigby dined at Clermont on Monday last. I left Mr. Grenville very well at Wotton on Saturday, he is now at Lord Lyttelton's.

PHILIP LLOYD, Dean of Norwich, to the EARL OF
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1767, Oct. 17. Deanery, Norwich.—Will have pleasure in doing all that depends on him to serve Mr. Tilson, whom Lord Buckinghamshire recommends, when the vacancy of Hempstead happens.

The EARL OF HUNTINGDON to THE SAME.
(Endorsed by the latter Letter of Dismission.)

1767, Nov. 5.—The King has commanded me to acquaint your Lordship that he appointed the Duke of Roxburgh to be one of the Gentlemen of the Bedchamber in your Lordship's Room. I flatter myself your Lordship will forgive me the disagreeable necessity of executing the duty of my office.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the EARL OF HUNTINGDON.

1767, Nov. 8.—I have receiv'd your Lordship's favor of the 5th of this month and should think very ill of myself if I was not prepared upon all occasions and in every situation to submit becomingly to his Majesty's pleasure.

It is incumbent upon me to express a proper sense of the obliging manner in which you have made the communication, and to assure you, etc. (*Draft.*)

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1767, Nov. 14. Wotton.—I have writ to Sir Richard Bampfylde according to your desire informing him of your intentions that Mr. Hobart should offer himself as a candidate for the City of Exeter at the next General Election in case of Mr. Tuckfield's death or of his declining to stand again on account of the bad state of his health. I have apply'd to Sir Richard Bampfylde for his interest in favor of Mr. Hobart, and have explain'd to him that it is not your intentions to make any opposition to the two present members. I am told that Sir Richard Bampfylde is to be attack'd in the county of Devon, if so, I suppose that your Lordship is well dispos'd towards him, as there cannot otherwise be any reasonable prospect of success in the present application to him. I heartily wish it may succeed but whether it does or no, I shall at least have had the pleasure of complying with your request, and of showing my regard for Mr. Hobart, in return for that which he has frequently expressed

towards me. I was very sorry to find by your letter that His Majesty had been prevail'd upon to appoint another gentleman of the Bed Chamber in your place. Has any expression or cause of his displeasure been ever signifyd to you, or is it to be holden forth as a mark of the displeasure of his Ministers and avowd upon that principle? When I have the pleasure of seeing you in Town, you will perhaps be better able to answer these questions than you are by letter. Mrs. Grenville and I propose to be in London on Saturday the 21st of this month. She is upon the whole considerably better this year than the last, and has had no return of her former pains for some months.

HANS STANLEY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1768, Oct. 29. Paultons.—Warm expressions of friendship and of his hope to visit Blickling. The occupations in which he passes his time described.

RICHARD OWEN CAMBRIDGE to THE SAME.

1766, July —. —Having been all the morning in London, it is now so near the going out of the post that I have not time to put in all our thanks to your Lsp. and Lady Buckingham, nor to mention Lady Suffolk, nor Mme. Perrier's being brought to bed of a boy, nor anything but the very little which is known for certain. All that is, that the D. of Grafton has the Treasury, and Mr. Townshend is Chanc. Exchequer. In his room to be two paymasters. Ld. Shelbourne, Secretary of State with Conway. So far *I am sure* is settled and they kiss hands on Wednesday. The talk is that Lord Camden is to be Chancellor, Northing[ton] Pres: Councill. The D. of Rutland to be laid on a bed of roses (that is —'s expression) that Ld. Bristol may have his place. I'll write no more hearsay. Hume has Salisbury and Litchfield the Deanery of St. Paul's.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to GEORGE GRENVILLE.

1769, July.—I hope Mrs. Grenville and the young gentleman are now so well recovered that you can with pleasure give an answer to the inquisitive solicitude of a distant friend. Thus far is the object of my letter, but as my pen is in hand I will send you some little account of our Norfolk Politicks.

The Norwich Assizes is usually a very general Meeting of the County and upon our arrival there we found all the Townshend and Walpole Party drawn up ready to resist a petition in consequence of an alarm given in the news-papers, by what authority as yet has not been traced.

The foresight of the High Sheriff had secured them a majority upon the Grand Jury, and the Foreman, tho' our friend, has unfortunately one of those undeciding characters who are very often greatly embarrassing to a party and scarcely ever essentially useful.

Mr. Mills, Mr. Harbord, Sir Wm. Wiseman, my brother and many other gentlemen of distinction were absent, and tho' several of our zealous patriots were even angrily urgent, it was judged more eligible not to make the attempt than to risque the incurring a disgrace. I am sorry this conduct was advisable as the Petition would probably not have been in the wild diffuse stile but confin'd simply to the merits of the Middlesex Election, at least such were the idea's of Sr Edward Astley, Mr. Coke and Sir Wm. Harbord and of several others. Tho' the Court influences many persons of distinction in this Country, the majority of the freeholders are greatly dissatisfy'd with the present Government, some to a very intemperate degree; and there is great reason to believe that they will try at the Michaelmas Sessions to have a Petition.

The worthy Bishop of Norwich* has left us, insensibly attracted into the vortex of Cambridge. He was initiated into the disinterested mystery's of that pious body and adores with them their new Apis.

Notwithstanding the frequent reports of his Grace's wishes and intentions to retire from publick business, I cannot think he will quit the Closet till he is thrust out, yet were he wise, surely he would wrap himself up in poor Lord Winchelsea's Blue Ribbond, nor venture the meeting of a Parliament, who if they are in any degree influenc'd by the temper of the Nation will make his situation as disagreeable to him as hitherto it has been disgracefull.

SIR WM. HARBORD to the DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

[1769], Sep. 30. Norwich.—(*Copy.*) Explanatory of his conduct in relation to the Petition referred to in the preceding letter.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1769, Augst. 16. Wotton.—I should have answered your kind enquiry after us as soon as I received it, if I had not been prevented by having so much company in the house as not to allow me one moment's leisure. We are now almost alone except the Count and Countess de Welderen, the former of whom has been confin'd to his bed here for this fortnight by a very bad bilious fever. He has been attended by two Physicians from Oxford, one of whom is now in the house and tells me that he hopes the danger is over tho' he has still a return of fever and is extremely reduced. Mrs. Grenville has had some returns of her complaint but they have been much slighter, and I hope that upon the whole she is much better than she was. I am much obliged to you for the account of your Norfolk Politicks. If the body of the freeholders are dissatisfy'd and think that their rights and those of all the Electors in England are violated by the late determination in the House of Commons they may

* Philip Yonge, or Young, Bishop, 1761-1783.

certainly remonstrate against it in a proper manner, and I take it for granted will do so whatever means are employed to prevent it, because they always have it in their power. If they do, they will give weight to the resistance which has been made to that measure in the House of Commons and prevent the like measure for the future; if they do not, those who think of it as I have done must content themselves with having done their duty in the proper place by opposing a resolution which appeared to them to be a direct breach of the Constitution. You will have seen by the News-Papers and probably have heard I have met Lord and Lady Chatham at Howe, and that they have since come over to us at Wotton and stay'd with us two or three days. Every thing passed extremely well in all respects, and whatever effect it may have in the political world, where it may possibly occasion much speculation, I am persuaded that our friends will be glad of an event which will contribute so much to our domestic happiness by healing the wounds which have so long prevented the union and peace of our family. As to Politicks I hear nothing but what tends to render the state of them more and more uncertain. I heartily lament the situation of the King and Kingdom, but I think it cannot be cured, till both or at least till one of them shall be fully convinced of the danger. I agree with you that the D. of G. will not quit the Closet till he is forced to it whatever reports may be given out of his wishes and intentions, nor do I think his wishes or intentions will be any remedy to the evil either one way or the other. I have long thought so, and my public sentiments continue unaltered and so, I trust, will my private friendships particularly that which I have long had the pleasure to cultivate with you.

GEORGE GRENVILLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1770, July 14. Charleton.—(Referring to Marble hill and trusts of Lady Suffolk's will.) I should be very sorry to be depriv'd of the pleasure which I flatter'd myself with of meeting you here if I had not heard from Lord Suffolk that you was more agreeably and better employ'd in Staffordshire.* May that employment (the best in which you can be engag'd) turn out as much to your happiness as your own wishes or those of your warmest friends can desire. Nothing my dear Lord, could give me a more cordial satisfaction than to be a witness of it, but I am engag'd in the Autumn to make another excursion to Packington and Hagley, and afterwards to receive some company at home, which I fear will make it impossible, but my desire to do it is so sincere that if I can I certainly would come to you at Blickling. I shall stay here till Fryday next, the 19th of this month, when I shall return to Wotton. I am obliged to you for the news which you send to me about the Colonies. I hear that there is much talk about them, but I am

* The Earl of Buckinghamshire was married for the second time on the 24th September, 1770, to Miss Caroline Conolly, of Stratton in Staffordshire, a granddaughter of the Earl of Strafford.

still persuaded that there will be nothing done, which I am sure in the present crisis cannot be right. Every fool can find fault, but it requires wisdom and ability to act with firmness and discretion after a series of the greatest folly and weakness which ever disgraced a country. Lord Suffolk joins with me in our kindest wishes and best compliments to you.

A PACKET OF PAPERS endorsed:—"PROCEEDINGS IN COUNCIL delivered by the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE:—Papers from the Council Office, 1770."

No. 1. (*Copy.*) Minutes of the Lords of the Committee of Council for plantation affairs, upon considering the state of disorder, confusion and misgovernment in the province of Massachusetts Bay. Dated 26 June, 1770.

No. 2. (*Copy.*) Minutes of the Lords of the Committee of Council. Dated 27 June, 1770.

No. 3. (*Copy.*) Minutes of the Lords of the Committee of Council. Dated 4 July, 1770.

No. 4. (*Copy.*) Report of the Lords of the Committee of Council. Dated 4 July, 1770.

No. 5. (*Copy.*) Order of His Majesty in Council. 6 July, 1770.

No. 6. (*Copy.*) Order of His Majesty in Council. 6 July, 1770.

A list of the above Papers.

J. SNOW to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1771, May 1 (by the Almanack, by the weather Xmas Day). The Chantry.—The embanking the Tavy and Tamar I shou'd really think very practicable and would answer very well. Mr. Heywood is going to experiment this summer in his marshes, and I think your Lordship might advantageous make a trial under Gnatam, where are many acres of shallow muddy grounds hardly cover'd but in spring tides and which lay much skreen'd both from strong tides and currents. Heywood mention'd the very thing to me as he pass'd lately thro' here and he will give your Lordship full accounts both of the charges and manner of doing of it by the same undertaker as Parker employs and Eliot has successfully employ'd. Hang politicks, I detest them! K., Lds. and the Commons are the only Government I know. If they are all in the wrong, I hope they will mend without recourse to swords, pistols and levelling republican principles. I can't help very sincerely condoling with your late disappointment in family hopes, but let not, my dearest Lord, your noble courage be cast down. I hope and trust your pious endeavours will succeed better next time. *Tu ne cede malis, at contra audentius ito.*

I quite approve and congratulate you of preferring private social happiness to noisy dependent concernment in publick affairs, at present in such confusion. . . I remember a french

Harlequin once giving a description of our Countrey said, "Pour l'Angleterre, c'est une grande bête, dont le cul est devenu la tête," which I really think was as just as well as drole Harlequinade.

Adieu, my dear Lord, I have rubb'd through this long winter pretty well and hope when I hear of two or three swallows flying about, to crawl out of my long imprisonment in my old residentiary Castle. My wife and family join in every grateful wish to you and yours with your ever faithfull and obliged, etc.

LORD CRAGGS CLARE^o to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1771, June 1. Kensington.—Warm expressions of gratitude to Lord and Lady Buckinghamshire for having undertaken the trust in relation to his daughter. Can now fill up with heart-felt joy a blank in his Will, which without their assistance he wou'd never have been able to do with any comfort or satisfaction.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1773, Feb. 19. Bath.—If ever I could have had a moment's doubt of the tender attention which my daughter would experience from your friendly and good heart, the earnest which you have given me in the last letter with which your Lordship honoured me, wou'd convince me that my death wou'd only produce a change of one loving father for another, as willing and more able to protect and serve her. In my impatience to be in London at a time when I considered absence as a crime in every public man, I set out from hence on my way thither, after a confinement of seven weeks to my house, and at the end of seventeen miles stopt at Lord Shelburn's house, fatigued, but in other respects feeling rather better for my journey. There I rested next day, and in the following night had a return of fever worse than at my first seizure. When it had abated a little, I prefer'd returning to my Physician here rather than remain at so great a distance, where he could afford me but few and short attendances.

MINUTES OF CONVERSATION with LORD DARTMOUTH.†

1774, March 2.—The first idea to have removed the Customs and Trade from Boston to some other Port in the Province, objected to by the Lawyers because the Captains of ships producing their clearance are legally entitled to require that a Custom House officer should attend them to any particular port.

Second. To have prosecuted the leaders at the Town Meeting viz. Williams, Hancock, Molineux, for High Treason for the opinions they gave at that meeting, and the guard plac'd upon the ships in consequence. The Solicitor-General coincided with this, but the Attorney-General objected as Hancock assigned as a

* Created Earl Nugent in 1776.

† Apparently between Lord Dartmouth and the Earl of Buckinghamshire.

reason for placing the guard that it was only to prevent others from destroying the Tea who might do it with an idea of afterwards throwing the odium upon their party.

A Bill to be brought into Parliament to enact the removal of the Custom House, Assembly, etc., from Boston; to make it a high crime and misdemeanour at any Public Meeting to dispute the Sovereign Legislative authority of Great Britain; and to enforce the payment of an indemnification to the East India Company for the Tea destroyed; also to regulate the Justices of the Peace whose general remissness has encouraged these Riots. (Obs. Not the Province or the Town, but the Leaders at the Meeting previous to the Riot.)

I proposed that the persons of whose active part at the Town Meeting the Council have evidence upon oath, should be declared incapable of holding any post of trust, honour or profit in the Province.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE AMERICAN REBELLION.*

It is evident that our present situation with the Colonys is so critical that no effectual middle term can be found; we must either insist upon their submission to the authority of the Legislature or give them up intirely to their own indiscretion. The first seems the lesser evil but it is by no means easy to determine the measures necessary for carrying it into execution and yet the decision upon those measures must be immediate. It would have become the wisdom of the Nation from the very infancy of the Colonys to have attended to the growth of them and to have introduc'd new regulations as the increase of cultivation, commerce, opulence and population made new regulations necessary. But above all this fatal spirit of independency should have been check'd in its very first appearence which on the contrary has been foster'd and cherish'd by measures which it were vain to dwell upon, tho' the painfull recollection cannot but be suggested by their consequences. This necessary policy too long defer'd will now admit of no delay, it is the duty of a good citizen strenuously to attempt that which, if difficult now, will in a very short space be impracticable.

Tho' the other Colonys are but too deeply engag'd in this business, yet as that of the Massachusetts Bay has taken the lead, it were better perhaps to suppose that they acted from the instigations and example of the disaffected there, and consider the town of Boston as the immediate object of the resentment of this country. I have been inform'd that there is evidence upon oath against several of the leaders at the Meeting previous to the destruction of the tea. They should be declar'd incapable of holding any office of trust, honor or profit in the Province, and if their effects can answer the damage sustained by the East India Company they should be condemn'd to make it good. It appears to me that for the future no person should be admitted into the

* This is in Lord Buckinghamshire's handwriting, but is unsigned. But see p. 295, Lord Hardwicke's letter of Dec. 26.

assembly or council or suffer'd to act as a justice of peace who do's not acknowledge a supreme power of Legislation in the Parlt. of England. This was, however, thought of before and great objections made to it. The removal of the Custom House from Boston and in consequence carrying the trade of the Province to another Port might also be expedient, and some regulations are necessary for preventing fraudulent bankruptcy and facilitating for recovering the just debts of our merchants. The determinations of Government should be sent with five or six Frigates with orders if there did not appear a disposition to submit to intercept their trade. This will be called Making War upon your Colonys but is it not evident that in their present temper nothing but an appearance of this Country's being resolved to support its authority at all events can prevent their throwing off even the appearance of allegiance? It would perhaps be advisable immediately to withdraw all the troops from the interior of the Country and to bring them to the Sea Ports. The Canadians also should be attended to who, if they already are not, might easily be made, the best subjects of the Crown in North America, their disposition is military and the idea of the force which might be brought from there would not a little contribute to keep the disaffected within bounds. From such accounts as have reach'd me it may be presum'd that there is no real love or true spirit in these people, and that they will submit to the superiority of this Country if they think it will be exerted. But even supposing they should successfully resist, they would only obtain that situation where a very few years longer of the languor and inattention of Great Britain would place them. *When they have submitted* for the present no further taxation should be thought of, but the Act of Navigation should be kept up in the utmost strictness, every step taken to discourage their manufactures and above all things some method thought of to stop the migration of the inhabitants of England and Ireland as far as possible and to prevent the further population of the inland parts of America.

EARL OF HARDWICKE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1773, March 17. St. James's Square.—After thanking you for the good company you placed me in last night at the Opera, I take the liberty to transcribe for your amusement what my brother* writes of the situation of affairs in the North. “The
“Situation of Europe does not clear up. On one side it is
“universally supposed that Peace will not be concluded between
“the Turks and Russians; on the other, that there is more
“reason to apprehend a rupture in the North than to expect
“tranquillity. Certain it is, that in Russia, Sweden and Denmark
“preparations are making by sea and land, and the French give
“out that they will send all their German regiments from Dantzick
“to Sweden, whilst a report is propagated from St. Petersburg
“that the Porte has promised a large subsidy to Sweden, a sum of

* Sir Joseph Yorke, Minister at the Hague, created Lord Dover, 1788

“which is already committed; if these two last articles (which I
 “give as uncertain) should be verified, I think his Swedish Majesty*
 “may be tempted to try his fortune, for the leaven of Aristocracy
 “in the old Government which smoulders under the ashes might
 “break out if a popular object in that Country (such as a war
 “with Russia) was not started to give another turn to the national
 “spirit. I believe I have said before that I have not the least
 “idea of the part Austria would take in the *Turckish* quarrel, but
 “it is positively said she has declared to France that she will be
 “neuter in any Swedish quarrel. We can but lament over the fate
 “of Poland in general and of Dantzick in particular, which City
 “will probably be sacrificed to the momentary interests of Russia
 “against her essential and fundamental duty. The Empress of
 “Russia feels that the K. of Prussia is in the wrong, but he is in
 “the possession of directing her Councils,” etc.

I am afraid I have tired your lordship with my diplomatick
 prose, but then I have quoted a better authority in those matters
 than my “*Ipsæ dixit*” would be.

It looks to me that we *here* only wait for events and have taken
 no decisive party.

Très-assurément nous ne faisons pas grande figure.

J. M. HEYWOOD to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1774, June 21. Manston.—(As to “Pike’s tenement” in Beer,
 “one of the prettiest estates in the parish and worth about £40
 a year.”)

A resident steward is necessary on Lord Buckinghamshire’s
 estate in these parishes.)

You may depend upon my getting the best intelligence I can
 of your Rector’s conduct respecting what you mention’d to me,
 but have no reason as yet to think he has done anything
 oppressive. I think your L^dship said you would write to him
 about the wood which you imagined had not been disposed of to
 the greatest advantage to yourself, etc., etc.

ROGER KERRISON to THE SAME.

1775, Jan. 17. Norwich.—Lord Buckinghamshire has so often
 (since he ceased to represent the City of Norwich in Parliament)
 distinguished himself not only as a benefactor to distressed
 Indigence but a liberal encourager of public Institutions that the
 Parishioners of St. Peter Mancroft are emboldened to solicit
 his name to a subscription lately set on foot for having a Peal of
 Twelve Bells in that Tower.

(Congratulations on the birth of an heir.) . . .

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to ROGER KERRISON.

No Date.—Promising ten guineas towards St. Peter’s Bells.
Draft.

* Gustavus III, 1771-1792.

His having given lately £100 towards the Discharge of Debtors confined in the City and County Gaols, added to the expense of inclosing the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital from the road, amounting to near £400, will in some sort apologise for his not being a larger contributor. "It will ever be the pride and glory of my family to merit the approbation and countenance of the Citizens of Norwich," etc.

Draft.

BARON CHERKASOW to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1775, August 31. Moscow.—Acknowledging the receipt of some engravings sent by the Earl to the Empress of Russia, he has been ordered by her to request his L^dship to forward her the Act of Parliament called "The Act declaring the rights and liberties of the subject and of establishing the succession to the Crown," W. and M. I., Session 2, Cap. 2. Asking also for a good French translation of the same.

ROBERT FELLOWES to THE SAME.

1775, Nov. 29. Shotesham.—Acknowledging a letter, enclosing a draft for two hundred and fifty pounds upon Messrs. Drummond, a mark of his "boundless liberality" to the Hospital [the Norfolk and Norwich]. "I entirely agree with your Lordship that a close wall was a proper enclosure for the Hospital, and so I always thought, but the Majority were of a different opinion and gave directions accordingly."

LORD NUGENT to THE SAME.

1775, Nov. 11. Stoke.—You have very naturally supposed that I could not without much time and blotting answer the best written and most elegant letter I ever yet received; and have accounted for my long silence from this consideration. But, be not so vain! It has travel'd from Blickling to Bristol, from Bristol to London, from London to Bath, and from Bath to Bristol. Now, compute the distance and compare them with dates, you will find I could not answer you a day sooner. After meeting Lady Dorothy on the road, I found at my arrival in London that my son was set out for Ireland, only to cut throats with a certain Col. Gabbet, who, he had been inform'd, misrepresented what he had said of Mrs. Bunbury to her husband when they met upon the same laudable business.

I felt a little uneasy upon the subject as you will readily believe, and instead of proceeding to Bristol returned to Gosfield, where I was some time after released from my apprehension by my son's return from Ireland with a letter from the said Col. Gabbet which, with reason, thoro'ly satisfied him.

I am now eating Turtle and drinking Punch. I shew'd your letter to George Grenville and his Lady; they wanted comfort and they had it. Poor woman! She is, I fear, in a desperate way; and they both set out this day for London without having receiv'd any benefit from Bath.

They desire their love to you, and feel, as they ought, what you say. You have used a device which has succeeded to keep Lady Buckingham's and your daughter's partiality for me a secret from my constituents.

Such reflections upon Merchants! I fear your interest declines at Norwich. I am sure I could ruin it by communicating your letter there. But I will keep your secret, provided you promise not to interrupt my happiness by any peevish fit of jealousy. You will by this bargain retain the love of thousands and I possess the goodwill of one whom I would prefer to millions. God bless you all.

Mr. Alderman Durbin waits.

(Note at the head of this letter.) Would to God you could share the happiness I am enjoying by the cheerful society of a certain gentleman who shall be nameless.

Affectionately yrs, Botetourt.*

EARL OF HARDWICKE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

[17]75, Dec. 26. St. James's Square.—I take the liberty to send you in confidence the last letter I received from my brother at the Hague, thinking it will amuse you, and put you a little *au fait*, not only of his negotiations but of the general state of Foreign Affairs. Your Lordship may repost it any time in the course of the morrow. We make here at present a great mystery of common things; how the Russian affair has slipped out of our fingers, I know not.† Sir Joseph‡ was not in that secret, I believe.

Your Lordship made me not only *happy* but *vain* by approving my crude idea about America. I am sensible of the delicacy and difficulty of it, and till we can strike them by an *Appareil de Force*, it cannot be attempted with a prospect of success. I am very sure that the sooner we can end that business *quo-cunque modo* the better. When I say that, I do not exclude the idea of doing it with dignity and decorum, but I see difficultys in carrying it thro' *à la rigueur* which my poor conceptions cannot get over.

I hope when I come to Town after the holy-days, if nothing else mend, we shall at least have better operas.

GENERAL HOWE to THE SAME.

1776, July 8. Staten Island.—It was not without the deepest concern that I heard of the late calamitous state of your family,§ being sensible both your Lordship and Lady Buckingham must

* Narbonne Berkeley, created Baron Botetourt April, 1764. a title which had been extinct since 1406. He died s.p. 1776.

† This probably refers to a negociation on the part of the Government to procure Russian Auxiliary troops in the American war. (See *Recueil des Instructions données aux ambassadeurs et ministres de France*. Vol. II. 329.)

‡ Sir Joseph Yorke.

§ The Earl of Buckinghamshire lost two infant sons in 1775 and 1776.

have suffered infinite pain. But as I have understood from Fanny her Ladyship bore her misfortunes with a calmness and resignation that was much admired, and which arising from the purest principles no doubt it must have softened the affliction.

The Halifax Armament got into Sandy Hook on the 29th last past, and the army is now cantoned in this island with every necessary refreshment to be wisht, and what is not frequently seen, to the great joy of the inhabitants who have been long oppressed by the Rebels for their unremitting attachment to H. M's Government.

It is reported that the Canada army is upon Lake Champlain, and a rebel Newspaper mentions an army being before Charlestown which had been summoned to surrender and rejected without any further particulars; and in the same paper the Congress has formally declared the Colonies to be free States.

We impatiently look for the Hessian reenforcements which we have reason to expect hourly from advice being had that they sailed from Portsmouth six weeks past and I hope Lord Howe will not be long after them.

The Enemy is numerous, and strongly entrenched upon York and Long Islands, with a respectable artillery both for the field and defences of the harbours.

But many of the inhabitants of this neighbourhood have declared their resolution of joining us, and taking up arms against Rebellion, and the measure of independency is by no means popular.

SIR HORACE MANN to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1776, Oct. 19. Florence.—Every mark of Your Lordship's kind remembrance gives me the greatest satisfaction and recalls to mine the great goodness you formerly honoured me with. I seize therefore this first opportunity to express my acknowledgements for your letter by Mr. Giles, who delivered it to me a few days ago. I endeavoured to convince him by every attention in my power of the respect I shall always shew to your Lordship's recommendations and how happy your commands of this or of any other nature will always make me.

* * * * *

The Lady who so long ago attracted your attention here is in perfect good health and seemed much obliged by your Lordship's remembrance of her. She is a widow, a 'Dama di Corte,' and has where withall to live comfortably though with frugality, *mi ha incaricato con molta premura di presentarle i suoi piu teneri saluti e di dirle che ella conserva ancora per lei la piu cara e sincera rimembranza.* Had she have been as tender when your Lordship was here as those expressions denote you would not now complain of her past severity, though you must give me leave to say that neither I nor many others here then thought her so insensible to your addresses.

EDMUND SEXTEN PERY^{*} to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1776, Nov. 30. Dublin.—Congratulations on his appointment to the Govt. of Ireland. It will be his duty as well as his inclination to assist him to the utmost.

GENERAL [JAMES] JOHNSTON to THE SAME.

1776, Dec. 5. Dublin, Henrietta Street.—I have found it necessary to agree with Lord Harcourt for the two setts of horses, they wou'd have been sold for more money in separates and the servants all dispers'd. You had better have the Chariot and the Berlin, and if you tell me you will leave this extent of business to me, I will take care of it all. If you can be at some expense to enlarge St. Woolston's, that and another house for your young family may hold you.

By all means direct for the yacht to wait for you at Holly Head. You may otherwise be detain'd at Parkgate frequently a fortnight and have a long and dangerous passage afterwards. . .

I can gett all manner of men servants here for you except cooks. Lord Harcourt had four. In short the fewer horses and servants you are at the expense of transporting the better. Two or three very fine black light leg'd stone horses with long tails and no whites will finish this business. . . .

JOHN HELY HUTCHINSON,[†] [Provost,] to THE SAME.

1776, Dec. 5. Trinity College, Dublin.—Congratulations on Lord Buckinghamshire's appointment and offers of support.

DAVID GARRICK to THE SAME.

[1776 ?] Dec. 12. Adelphi.—Tho' I have for near forty years fac'd the most formidable criticks yet I could not till this moment have resolution enough to write and send this letter to your Lordship. Nothing indeed ought to distress a man of sensibility more than giving trouble without the least right or pretence for it. Thus, my Lord, having no excuse for my presumption, I must necessarily appeal to your goodness for my pardon. I have a nephew, my namesake, whose dangerous state of health oblig'd him some time ago to sell out of Lord Pembroke's Dragoons. We never expected that he would have got the better of his disorder. He is now quite recover'd, is a young man with a tolerable person and his character a good one. Lord Pembroke and the officers of the Regiment speak of him with great partiality. His situation at present is very disagreeable to him, and if your Lordship would take pity on him and honour him with your commands to attend your suite in any capacity you should think proper, he would think himself most particularly happy, and I, my Lord, should never forget the obligation. I

* Speaker to the Irish House of Commons. See for Edmund Pery's Correspondence, 14th Report Hist. MSS. Commission 1895, p. 155 *et seq.*

† See p. 159 of the same Report.

might have procur'd a more powerful interest for this solicitation, but I was resolv'd to owe any favour I might receive to Lord Buckingham alone, so that he might have no difficulty in refusing

His Lordship's most humble, etc.,

D. Garrick.

GENERAL [JAMES] JOHNSTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1776, Dec. 24. Dublin.—As to the arrangements for Lord Buckinghamshire's arrival in Ireland.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1776, Christmas Day.—The same, with estimates of carriages taken of Ld. Harcourt.

	£
The Harness for eight	105
The Berlin	135
The Chasse Marine	30
The Chariot (probably)	330 (first cost)
etc.	

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1776, Dec. 28.—Estimates a new chasse marine at £60. The State Horses are exercised in it.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to THE SAME.

1777, Jan. 20.— . . . Perhaps if I had met you we might have had some conversation concerning your kingdom,* but I know of nothing particular to trouble you with. I certainly should not have omitted to mention the Primate to you as one of the best men living. He is a man of very sound judgement and what is better of a very sound heart, a true friend to the dignity and interest of Government, and has effected more for the civilization and improvement of Ireland than any ten men for these hundred years. He hates and despises a job, and whatever information he gives you I will venture to say you may depend upon. It has surprized me that his Grace, who is at the head of the first linnen county in Ireland, and of the province in which it flourishes, should not be a member of the Linnen Board. It was my intention to have offered him the first vacancy, had I been Lord Lieutenant, as his predecessors have always had a seat at that Board. I mention all this to your Lordship by way of just tribute to most distinguished and remarkable merits. As to myself, none of your humble servants will be less troublesome to you, or more sincerely attached to the support of your Administration than I shall be. I hope you will not think the prayer of the humble petition enclosed of very grave and serious

* The Earl of Buckinghamshire arrived in Dublin as Viceroy of Ireland, 25 Jan., 1777

consequence, and that you will grant the petitioner's request. I heartily wish you a safe and pleasant journey and voyage, and that you will be as well satisfied and pleased with your people as I am sure they ought to be with you.

SIR JOHN IRWINE* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, Feb.—He has received a letter from Ld. George Germain, of a private nature, telling him that the King desires to see him. He therefore asks leave of the Ld. Lieutenant to go to England, etc. . . .

M. LE MARQUES DE NOAILLES, French Ambassador in London, to THE SAME.

1777, Mars 3. Londres.—Requesting his good offices in the forwarding of a box which Mr. Dickson, an apothecary in Dublin, wishes to convey to the Ambassador for M. de Sartine, Minister of the Marine in France. It contains a remedy said to be very efficacious against a species of ant, from which the French colony of Martinique has suffered much.

(*French.*)

HANS STANLEY to THE SAME.

1777, March 20. Privy Garden.—I am very sure you must be sensible that if you have not before heard from me my silence has not certainly arisen from inattention or indifference. I have indeed restrained my own inclination from an idea that one ought not without an absolute necessity to break into the first hours of people that are arriving to new situations and important affairs. I conceive, that wanting neither method nor diligence, you are at present able to command that leisure which is the fruit of them, and that I therefore may now and then remind you of my very faithful and affectionate attachment without being too troublesome. My own inclination must render these sentiments a very principal part of my correspondence, with regard to other articles of it your Lordship may depend upon my obeying any commands I receive from you, and endeavouring to inform you of what perhaps you are less likely to learn from other letters. I should possibly have broke thro' the rule I set out with if the House of Commons had afforded me an excuse, but that assembly has been very near annihilated ever since you left England, and Lord North's illness has for very near a month past prevented any propositions of business coming before it. The attack has been a very serious one, and his recovery for some time but slow. He went, however, on Sunday last, to Bushy Park; and C. Townshend, whom I saw yesterday just arriving from him, assures me that he is now able to take the air, and that he mends apace. We suppose, in consequence, that the Civil List and

* Created May, 1775, Commander-in-Chief of all Land Forces in Ireland, Governor of Londonderry and Culmore Fort, and a little later, a Member of the Privy Council.

other subsidiary points will be moved soon after the Easter Holy days. My knowledge of these latter transactions must be very imperfect. I am, however, from report afraid that they do not go on either as to numbers or as to terms so well as we wish ; this assistance is, however, extreamly wanted, for success has always depended much upon opinion, and by all accounts the late unhappy defeat of the Hessians has extremely revived the spirit of the Rebels. It has appeared to me that tho' some local resistance might still remain in parts, the business would have been accomplished from the time that they had no subsisting army to oppose to you, and I verily think, that without this unfortunate accident, the time of the men already listed being then expiring, Mr. Washington would have been left without any military force. What increases my regret is that the blow might have been avoided as far as appears from circumstances as they are stated, if that Corps had not been too far advanced, or if they would have retreated about eight miles, or if in short they had not left a strong post they were in possession of, to come into the open field, and even then if they had acted with more vigor.

General Robinson arrived here yesterday evening from N. York, and I happen'd afterwards to see Ld. G. Germaine, who has received no material intelligence. Robinson sailed the 13th of February, on which day Sir Wm. Howe was setting out upon an expedition to the Jerseys. There has been some small skirmishes, in all which we had the superiority. The plan of the Americans has been to beat up and straighten our winter quarters, judging that our loss is much more difficult to repair than their own. Earlier letters from that country had said that Washington was declar'd Protector, the title is not such ; he is named by the Congress Dictator of America for six months ; and they certainly have by this step adopted a form of Government much more adequate to the conjuncture. The alteration is said to have arisen from the complaints of the General as to bad choice of officers, delays, &c., &c. Three French Officers are coming over prisoners here. How ought you to treat them? As their own Sovereign has not acknowledged the Colonies for a State, neutrals cannot serve with them as volunteers, and therefore I fancy that Grotius and Puffendorf would consider them as no better than *Praedones*.

You will undoubtedly know better than I can all the probabilities for and against a French war ; our continuance here was so short that I could hardly impart to you my own crude remarks and conclusions made in the last summer. I in general thought their Ministry not dispos'd to the measure, but the crisis is so delicate that both nations may probably be involved in it without much premeditation by some act of petulance. Their conduct in receiving the American Privateers and their prizes may be overlooked. I understand that these latter were never condemned, but the purchaser took the title along with the effects such as it was ; but if it be true that they have refused to restore the Lisbon Packett claimed as a vessel belonging to the King, the affront is certainly of the grossest kind. What is at the same time very extraordinary, I am told from tolerable good authority

that letters from Dr. Franklin to the Congress have been intercepted, saying that he despairs of engaging that Court in hostilities against us.

I doubt all this is but an uncheerful sort of correspondence, we go on, however, feasting, dancing, marrying, and giving in marriage like our ante-diluvian predecessors ; as to which particulars I refer you to Lady Buckingham, adding what I know must be to you the best consolation, when public prospects are gloomy, that I have never seen her Ladyship enjoy a better share of health and beauty.

I set out in about a week for my anniversary at Paultons, which will be very full this year of your friends, and where you are most certain of being often remember'd. If there remains a *liber commeatus* I shall go soon after the Birthday, if not before, to Paris, and from thence to Spa, being determin'd to return again to those waters from which I received last year so great and so permanent a benefit. I flatter myself that a third journey thither will be unnecessary, and that I shall be able next summer to execute what I have so much at heart as the paying my respects to your Excellency at Dublin, for tho' I think nothing can have been so proper and so judicious for you as the acceptance of your present commission, I am as an individual a very principal sufferer by your absence ; you know with how much sincerity I express myself in saying that I have met with very few men in my life with whom I have liked to pass it so well as with yourself, and at the present period of it, tho' I enjoy very good health, three or four years is a great defalcation. I must however comfort myself that your services will probably be the cause of your finding yourself for the future, whenever you return, in the situation I have long wished you, and that I meanwhile have the satisfaction of hearing from all hands that you are gaining respect and approbation of which indeed I had no doubt, having as you know formerly had the means of studying you in one of those predicaments, *quae indicant virum*.

Having thus, my dear Lord, renew'd, I hope, not too inopportunistically my correspondence with your Excellency, I have nothing to add but that I desire it may on your part be carried on only when it entirely suits your leisure and convenience ; for if anything occurs that I think you will wish to be apprized of, I need not say that I shall not wait the regular and formal return of an answer from you. I beg my best compliments to Sir John Irwin.

LORD FITZWILLIAM to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, April 10. Mount Merrion.—Is unable to let Mountmerrion to the Earl of Buckinghamshire as he had hoped.

STATEMENT ON IRISH TRADE BY S[ACKVILLE] H[AMILTON.*]

1777, April 17.—It may be thought improper to propose at this juncture any alteration in the system of American trade, and it

* See 14th Report of the Hist. MSS. Commission, p. 165. Sackville Hamilton was in this year Chief Secretary for the Inland Department of the Commissioners of Custom.

may be in vain to suggest it untill that country be settled. But if we should be at the eve of such an event, this may possibly be a proper time to take up the matter ; to unite with the settlement of that country the consideration of enlarging our trade with the islands in order to extend the manufacture and commerce of Ireland, a country which from its situation and the connections and disposition of the people can never create a jealousy or be suspected of wishing for any interests separate from England.

It is not amiss in the first place to state the progress of the laws respecting the Plantation trade in order to show the foundation of this observation. That the Irish trade with America stood formerly upon the same footing as the English. That the restrictions laid on it were prejudicial to the interests of the Empire and that by a partial restoration of the trade we have recovered what little wealth or industry we can boast of. If these good effects have followed without any prejudice to the trade of Great Britain the argument and we hope the indulgence may be extended.

The Act of Navigation (the bulwark of British Commerce) considers England and Ireland as one country, and lays no restraint on the Irish trade with the Plantations. (12 Chas. 2nd, Eng.)

The Wool Act of the same year (12 Chas. 2nd, Eng.), and that which passed two years after (14 Chas. 2nd, Eng.), affect Ireland only as they affect England.

In the first Irish Parliament which was called after the Restoration, the several Acts granting an hereditary revenue to the Crown were passed ; among others the Act of Tonnage and Poundage, whereby a revenue of 5 per cent. was granted on the exports of Ireland, and the duties of custom on the produce of the Plantations were rated at only one half when the commodities should be imported from England. (14 and 15 Chas. 2nd, Irish, see the proviso at the latter end of the Statute.) This was immediately followed by an English Act (15 Chas. 2nd, Eng.) prohibiting any exportation from Ireland to the Plantations but of servants, horses and victual.

Several laws were afterwards enacted in England to limit the Plantation trade, but as the limitations and restrictions (so far as they concerned this Kingdom) were binding only in the Plantations, some trade was still carried on directly to Ireland. But in the year 1695 an English Act (7 and 8 Wm. 3rd, Eng.) prohibited the importation of any goods to Ireland from the Plantations on any pretence, so that even stranded goods cannot be disposed of here. Thus the Plantation trade both of export and import was totally taken away and remained so for some years.

This discouragement to settlers threw the Protestant interest into decline. (See the Preamble of 3 and 4 Anne, Eng.) Something was necessary to be done for its support. Our linen was permitted to America, and in some years it was allowed to go duty free (3 Geo. 1st, Eng.), to continue so long as British linens should be imported free into Ireland. Industry now began

to shew some signs of life. In the succeeding reign it was discovered that the entire restriction of our imports from the Plantations was a prejudice to the navigation and trade of Great Britain and of the Colonies. (See the Preamble to 4 Geo. 2nd, Eng.) We were then permitted to import goods of the Plantations, except sugar, tobacco, cotton-wool, indico, ginger, specklewood, dying woods, rice, melasses, furs, copper ore, pitch, tar, turpentine, masts, yards and bowsprits. Confined as these benefits were, they were nevertheless of infinite importance to a country so confined in trade. And the wealth of Ireland increased with its population insomuch that during the last war she supplied these kingdoms with near an hundred thousand men for their fleets and armies, and maintained forty regiments in pay. Ireland is as yet far below that state to which encouragement would raise her. The whole kingdom does not fit out so many merchant ships as belong to any one of the considerable ports of England or America. Industry does but crawl through the land. In many parts of the south and west the country is open, waste and uninhabited. Even within a small distance of the Metropolis the want of improvement is too obvious. Should the system of commercial politicks in England admit of further attention to this country; should the opinion be avowed that as the riches and inhabitants of Ireland increase, the amount of Irish estates spent in England and of English luxuries consumed in Ireland will find a proportional increase, and should this truth be acknowledged that the wealth of Ireland, however acquired, must ultimately center and accumulate in England, *that* wealth may be in some measure increased by admitting a direct importation from the American Islands of sugar, cotton-wool, dying stuffs and dying woods.

Sugar.—At present it is difficult to make up a cargo for Ireland without this article, and as it must first be landed in England, that circumstance increases the freight, insurance, delay and hazard, and gives a double opportunity of smuggling upon the coasts.

Cotton Wool.—Quantities are spun in Ireland for the use of the English manufactures. Such as is of American growth must be sent from England, which enhances the cost to the English factor. A direct importation would in this article be of importance to England as well as Ireland.

Dying Stuffs and Woods.—The injury to our manufactures by any difficulty or needless expense in the importation of these articles does not require any comment.

Our exports to the Plantations are restrained in every article of the manufacture or produce of Ireland except plain linen, victual, horses and human creatures. An indulgence to export thither the following goods, or any of them, would be highly acceptable :—Broad, narrow, fine or coarse cloths, serges, poplins, camlets, ratteens, frizes, flannels, blankets, stockings, shoes, boots, saddles, painted or stained linens, bottles containing wine or beer, subject no doubt to the like duties or regulations as the same articles are subject to upon exportation from Great

Britain. If we quit the Plantation trade to consider of improvements for the trade of Ireland, to which no objection will arise in Great Britain, our difficulties increase. The produce and manufactures of both countries are so much alike that if encouragement be proposed for any particular article in Ireland some town in England will immediately complain, and the representatives will be instructed to oppose it. So long as local regards prevail every such project will be defeated. But considering the mutual advantage of both countries nationally, see whether any objection lies to the general plan. Put the intercourse of commerce between the two countries upon an equal footing, so far as is consistent with the public revenue of each, and open the importation of every produce and manufacture of Ireland into England. The effect of this must be that Ireland will become as one great factory to England. The profits of every manufacture will equally circulate through London, the supply of foreign marketts will be increased and at a cheaper rate by the price of labor being reduced, or provisions being cheaper to the manufacturer.

But if so general a plan be not proper to launch into, and it must be confined to one article, let it be the woolen trade, continue the prohibitory laws as to foreign countries, but open the export free to England. It may be the means of recovering that trade which France has of late years taken into her hands. If this be too much, open it at least for coarse cloths and frizes.

Contrary to sound policy, a part of the hereditary revenue has been placed upon our exports, continue it as to foreign countries, but let it be given up on the exports to Britain. Let the law be in force from two years to two years to keep pace with the Money Bills, and let Parliament make it good in the Biennial Supplies. In order to prevent fraud by exportation to other countries under colour of an export to Britain it may be done by way of drawback upon a certificate of the landing in Britain.

EARL OF SCARBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, April 17. London.—As to help which he hopes for (apparently pecuniary) in the “winning of a colliery, which would be of infinite advantage” to himself and his successors.

M. LE MARQUIS DE NOAILLES to THE SAME.

1777, April 25. Londres.—Asking for his good offices with respect to a memorial which he encloses, addressed to him by the administrators of the General Hospital at Paris. (The memorial not here.) “Il y est question d’une créance qui est devenue le patrimoine des Vaurzes.”

EARL OF SUFFOLK to the LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

1777, May 14. Duke St., Westminster.—Has conveyed Ld. Buckinghamshire’s thanks to his Majesty for his late act of grace and goodness to his family.

“The last accounts from America are tolerably good. I make no doubt the next will be still better ; and trust in God that we are in a fair way to subdue the Rebellion notwithstanding all the difficulties and embarrassments attending it.”

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN to the LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

1777, June 9. Pall Mall.—You will hear by this post that Lord Percy is arrived from Rhode Island, an event I endeavoured to prevent. He will not be in town till Saturday. The packet in which he came brought letters from Sir Wm. Howe. They seldom contain anything but the facts that may have happened since he last wrote. He gives an account of a success gained by Lord Cornwallis in surprising a post of the Rebels within six or seven miles of Brunswick, in which he killed about 30 and took several prisoners, with three pieces of brass cannon. Private letters state this advantage in a stronger light, but you know there is a little affectation of modesty in all the accounts he sends. He tells us likewise of an expedition sent into Connecticut under Tryon's command consisting of 1,000 men and six pieces of cannon. Sir Wm. Erskine and Brigadier-General Agnew were likewise employed, and the object was to destroy a large magazine at Danbury, about twenty miles from the coast. At the same time we learn from Lord Howe (but not a word from the General) that three frigates and 12 transports with soldiers sail'd up the North River, their object was likewise to attack magazines, and by the enclosed extract of a letter from Sir Peter Parker you will see that both attacks met with success. Several prizes have been lately made, as we learn by the New York Gazette, and by the same authority I suspect that the *Amphitrite*, which carried officers and stores from France, was blown up in an action at the entrance of the Delawar. The article says that Captain Hammond had engaged a French ship with 27 guns, loaded with military stores from France, and that after a short attack the French ship blew up and everyone on board was lost. General Howe says the camp equipage was not then arrived, April 27th, which I suppose means to convey that he cannot begin his campaign till he receives them. I hope he will not be long detained on that account, as the ship sailed on the 27th of March from Spithead. I thought these particulars might be satisfactory to your Lordship, that you might be informed how far the many reports you will hear upon the arrival of this packet may be depended upon. Thank God, our session ends to-morrow. We continue to receive the most friendly assurances from France. I cannot say their actions correspond with their professions, which may make it prudent to say nothing about them in the Speech.

SACKVILLE HAMILTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, June 21. Custom House, Dublin.—Upon examining the books I do not find any entry of the exportation of Cotton Yarn

from hence to England, and in the English Book of Rates the reason appears: a duty of about threepence a pound on the importation in Great Britain.

I humbly submit to your Excellency's consideration whether a free importation there of Cotton Yarn from hence may not be of advantage to the weavers at Manchester, &c., while the unembarrassed exportation from hence joined to the direct importation of the Cotton Wool from the Plantations would be an acceptable grace to this kingdom.

I propose to take the advantage of your Excellency's indulgence to go to the county of Down, from whence I hope to return on Thursday to receive any commands your Excellency may be pleased to honor me with, than which few things can gratify me more.

LORD CADOGAN to THE EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, July 2.—Hoping to pay his duty as “one of Lord Buckinghamshire's Irish subjects” in November. Has great pleasure in hearing “that Irish affairs carry so good an appearance under his administration.”

*The Exports from Ireland to the Plantations are confin'd to victuals† and to white and brown linen cloth, the manufacture of Ireland.‡

Chequered, striped, printed, painted, stained or dyed linens are excluded from those markets, as they are from the British markets by two subsequent Acts,§ in violation of a solemn compact between the Parliaments of England and Ireland|| in consequence of which compact the Parliament of Ireland laid an additional duty of 4s. on every 20s. value of broadcloth exported out of Ireland, and 2s. on every 20s. value of other woolen manufacture, which are in effect a prohibition. Altho' white and brown linens may be sent directly from Ireland to the West Indies, yet very few are so sent, as there is little consumption there of fine linens, and as coarse, white and brown linens of the manufacture of Great Britain and Ireland, exported from Great Britain and being the property of some persons residing in Great Britain or in some of the British Colonies of America, receive a bounty in Britain from which the resident in Ireland is excluded, those linens are all exported from hence.

* This MS. is unsigned.

† 3 and 4 Queen Anne, chap. 8.

‡ 6 Geo. II, chap. 13. s. 4, 13.

§ 9, 10 11, 12 Queen Anne.

|| Vide Journals of the H. of Commons of England, Jovis 30 Die Junii, 1698. Address to the King: “That you will make it your Royal care and enjoin all those you employ in Ireland to make it their care and use their utmost diligence to hinder the exportation of wool from Ireland except to be imported hither and for discouraging the woolen manufacture and encouraging the linen manufacture in Ireland, to which we shall always be ready to give our utmost assistance.”

While Ireland is thus confined in her exports to the Plantations, her imports from the West Indies are restrained by law to Rum.* Every other West India produce must be first unloaded in some British port; by which Britain gains no revenue, as there is a drawback of the duties upon re-exportation, while the cargoes intended for the Irish market are exposed to more hazards in their passage from England to Ireland than in a voyage from the West Indies to Europe, beside the increase of expense by demurrage to the Irish.

These hazards and expenses are often doubled, as it often happens that vessels loaded with West India cargoes for the Irish market touch first at some fresh port to unload their rum, or being driven on the Irish coast proceed after to a British port to unload and reload for the ultimate place of their destination. As a cargoe of rum is but nearly equal in value to a cargoe of victuals, and as more victuals are consumed in the West Indies than rum in Ireland, the Irish ships confined to barter for one article only, exceeding in quantity the demand of the Irish market and which may be raised in the West Indies to an unmarketable price by those who take advantage of their necessity, must be obliged to return to Ireland loaded only in part or dead freighted, or take other produce to a British port to be after exported in the whole or in part to Ireland, with all the risk and expence already mentioned, or if the whole of the cargo be to remain in Britain, the Irish vessel must trust to the precarious chance of being freighted with other merchandize for Ireland at the port where it arrives. All these grievances imposed upon Ireland affect the West India planters in the price of victuals with which they might be supplied from Ireland at a cheaper rate, and of chequered, striped, painted, printed, stained or dyed linens, which their sailors, negroes, and the low ranks of their people wear, and with which they are now intirely supplied by foreign linens exported with a drawback from England, which operates as a bounty deny'd to British and Irish linens.

They also supply the Colonies of other nations to which the Irish would extend that manufacture if they were allowed to export it to the West Indies, and if the same allowance were granted to Irish duck sail cloth and cordage, Holland would no longer engross that trade as it now does in a great degree already from St. Eustatia.

If the West Indies are not to be taxed in aid of the revenue of Gt. Britain, it is absurd and inconsistent that they should be deprived of the liberty of sending their produce directly to Ireland, by an exclusion which, bringing no increase of revenue to Gt. Britian, is virtually a tax upon their imports from Ireland, as that exclusion inhances their price. By opening the market of the West Indies directly to Ireland more of their produce would be consumed there, and by consequence more would be produced, for quantity increases with demand.

* 6 George II. chap. xiii. s. 4, 19. 12 George II. chap. 30, s. 5, 16, 31.
31 George II. chap 35, s. 1.

There are still great tracts of land uncultivated in Jamaica and very little of the ceded Islands is as yet cleared.

Opening the Irish market would therefore be a premium upon West India cultivation, and by the increase of produce in the West Indies, altho' Ireland should have a share of that increase, England would have incomparably a greater, as Ireland could receive no more than the value of its confined exports to the West Indies.

Under the present restraint upon Irish export a cargo of provisions is not equal to a third of sugars, and if by a relaxation of that restraint Ireland should be enabled to purchase the whole of a cargo, it is clear from experience in other instances such as glass* and woollen goods,† the materials of which are all produced in Ireland, that where manufacture is permitted but exportation is prohibited, as would be the case of sugar there,‡ Ireland would not be able to supply a quantity equal to her own consumption.

The remainder must therefore be had from England, that great market of the staple commodities of Ireland, which possesses four fifths of her trade and is the centre of exchange for the remaining fifth.

The decrease of export from Great Britain to Ireland of West India produce would by an increase of produce in the West Indies in a considerable degree be compensated by an increase of export to foreign markets of those articles which by law can be exported; and every such increase would diminish the French exports to the same markets, giving to Great Britain an advantage over our rivals in trade.

Every gain to Ireland by lowering the price of West India produce for home consumption would enable the inhabitants to purchase more of manufactures importable by law only from Britain, such as woollen goods and many others which are composed of British materials and employ incomparably a greater number of hands in their production and manufacture, not above 30 men being employed in a large sugar house, and by consequence an increase in the consumption of such manufactures would be of greater advantage to the community in general and to the landed interest of Britain in particular, than the consumption of manufactures whose materials are imported. It is evident from the Custom House accounts compared with the Statutes relating to Irish Trade that every advantage given to the trade of Ireland has increased the quantity of British manufactures exported thither, and of the materials of manufactures imported here from thence.

Experience also proves that the number of Irish spending their fortunes in England has increased in a still greater proportion.

The sugars should be cheaper in Ireland than in Great Britain, they cannot interfere with us in foreign markets as their exportation is prohibited. But if it were not, tho' the duties upon importation there are lower than here, yet as there is a drawback

* 19 George II., chap. 12, s. 24-25.

† 3 and 4, Anne, chap. 8, s. 2-3.

‡ 5 George I., chap. 21, s. 1.

upon the duties here upon exportation, the situation of Great Britain with respect to Holland, Germany, the East Countries and Russia, to which alone sugars are exported in Europe, rendering the passage from Britain nearer and less subject to risk, would make it impossible for Ireland to meet us at those markets, even if she had a capital in trade equal to the purchase of more than she wants for her own consumption. If it be objected that sugars imported under a high duty into Ireland may be smuggled into Great Britain, it is clear from experience that they cannot; as there are few or no complaints of such practices with relation to French sugars, which are cheaper than British or to sugars imported from hence to foreign markets with a drawback of the duty without any security by certificates or otherwise of their being delivered at the ports for which they are cleared out.

The security will be still greater with respect to Irish sugars, as they must be smuggled with the Irish duty upon them.

It is a bad policy to impoverish our best customer, and the quantities of British manufactures consumed in Ireland and the quickness of returns to England render Ireland the best customer that England deals with. A capital of one thousand pounds upon which returns are made once a year is of more advantage in trade than a capital of 3,000*l.* upon which returns are made only once in three years; as the profits of each year becomes an additional capital, which is precisely the case of the trade to Ireland, compared with that to America.

It is said that Ireland is not taxt for the benefit of Great Britain, but the fact is clearly otherwise.

It is tax't for a Peace Establishment of 15,000 men, 3,000 of whom are at all times employed out of Ireland for the service of Great Britain.*

It is tax't for pensions given to Brittons, an improper application of which does not lessen the burden upon Ireland, and it is taxt for Irish place men and military officers residing in Britain.

It pays a grievous tho' a voluntary tax of above £500,000 per annum to other absentees possessing fortunes in Ireland. But the heaviest of its burdens is composed of exorbitant taxes in Customs and Excise upon foreign necessary imports and native exports and productions to which it is necessitated by exempting British imports from all additional duties, an exemption which operates as a premium upon the trade of Great Britain to Ireland. To supply this exemption, beef amongst innumerable other articles is taxed upon exportation, and the duties of excise upon home-made beer are so high that English porter is drunk as cheap in Ireland, to the utter ruin of the brewery there.

Ireland from its proximity can never become independent of Britain in any possible state of prosperity while emigrations from thence occasioned by oppression, and which can only be

* In war that establishment becomes much higher.

prevented by indulgences, have enabled America to aspire to independence and may exalt her to an empire formidable to Britain.

If a direct exportation should be allowed from the West Indies to Ireland, the same law* which prevents the produce of foreign islands from being smuggled into Great Britain must no doubt be extended to Ireland, where the Board of Revenue is absolutely under the control of an English Lord Lieutenant and every officer of Customs and Excise is appointed by him.

The Commissioners of that Board and the Under Commissioners of Excise, who have now a power of proceeding in a summary way and of giving judgment and laying penalties and forfeitures in all cases of Excise, may have the same authority† in the execution of this Act for prohibiting the importation of all foreign glass, which is effectually prevented.

The West India planter will therefore be as secure in Ireland as in Great Britain against smuggling in foreign sugars. But it is not improbable that some planters who before the war with America repined at our conquest of the French Islands as the acquisition of the ceded Islands obstructed the means of their improvements, and complained of the low price of British sugars for home consumption and exportation, should under various pretences object to a plan conferring a general benefit upon Great Britain, Ireland, and the West Indies, but which at the same time would destroy a monopoly affording greater gains to a few from a stinted improvement of the Islands and a more limited importation of produce into Great Britain and Ireland.

If the local interest of a few, whether in Britain or the West Indies, or a combination of those interests prejudicial to both Countries, continue to defeat every proposition for the advantage of Ireland, no time will be ever thought favourable for the relief of that oppressed Country, and no future period can ever be so proper as the present, when Ireland in common with the West Indies has been ruined by a war (in the causes of which they had no share) merely because they belonged to Great Britain. The Americans mourned over Ireland while they captured her miserable trade, and took those to their bosoms who would join in their cause as fellow sufferers under one common oppressor.

LT.-COL. P. THOS. DE BURGH to RICHARD CUMBERLAND.

1777 (?) June 25. Mount Street, Friday.—The improbability of finding you at home induces me to trouble you thus. The determination to accept of some offers to raise regiments here, may possibly soon be extended to Ireland. From your situation as well as intimacy with Sir. R. Heron, I conclude any such resolution must soon reach your knowledge. I am going to-morrow into Hampshire for about a month, and if any

* 4 George III. chap. 15, s. 20.

† As has been given to them by a British Act of Parliament, 19 George II., chap. 12 and 25.

occasion should offer to make a renewal of my former proposals on that subject proper, you will oblige me extremely by giving me intimation of it. I have breathed the air of St. James's too long not to be convinced how little is to be obtained for once asking, but on the other hand wish to avoid giving myself as well as others unnecessary trouble where success does not appear probable.

ROBERT GORDON [Commissioner of Provisions] to the
RIGHT HONOURABLE RICHARD HERON.*

1777, July 7. Cork.—I have this moment received the following account from New York by letters dated 10th June, and from Brunswick the 7th June last, that Washington had decamped with his army about ten thousand men, and retreated towards the Delawar; that our people had followed and that General Sir William Howe had left New York with most of the troops in and about it on the tenth June, in the evening, for Ambay; that four thousand troops, Germans and British, had arrived a few days before and had joined the army. All which was then in motion after Washington.

The EARL OF HARDWICKE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, July 19. London.—When I look at the date of your last letter (June the 7th) I am ashamed at not having answered it sooner—when I consider the insignificance of my correspondence, I flatter myself you will hold me excused.

Your Excellency seems to intend the turning over a new *leaf* in Ireland, by getting *rid* of King James' Robes; if you had not told me so, I should have had no notion that any chief Governor would have worn them after the battle of the Boyne. I wish all *rags* in church and state as well disposed of; I shall be happy to hear when your Parliament meets that the Lord-Lieutenant *novo splendore resurgit*.

As to our public *notions*, we are waiting for decisive accounts from America; the army must be now in *activity*, Howe or Lord Cornwallis on the Jersey side—Burgoyne on that of the Lakes; an expedition is intended by sea against Philadelphia which Lord Howe commands, and I suppose his brother accompanys it as events arise in the Jerseys. Lord Howe has a great fleet and several frigates, &c., which we should be glad of just *now* against the privateers. Washington's Army (Militia included) is said to be all 11,000 men; there is a force at Philadelphia under Lord Stirling. Gates commands at Ticonderoga and there is a strong post at Mount Independence between Canada and New Hampshire which it is thought Burgoyne will make his post if he succeeds at Ticonderoga. Washington is said to be dissatisfied with the Northern Colonys, for not sending him greater reinforcements.

* Chief Secretary to the Earl of Buckinghamshire, Member for Lisburn and a Privy Councillor in Ireland. See 14th Report Hist. MSS. Commission, p. 157. He was created a Baronet in 1778.

Sir Joseph * expects that Silas Deane will make them a visit in Holland. He has prepared the Regent there for it and will obey any orders he receives about him. It is certain that many foreign adventurers have gone into the American Service and some who have asked commissions in the French, under leave of absence for two years. I am told, however, from good authority, that Cunningham is embargoed at Dunkirk, and that circular orders have been sent to the French Ports not to permit any American Privateers or their prizes to remain there above 24 hours. I can only wish that this last order may be observed. It is a problem with me whether very good success in America will make the French take a more open part or not. I lay on the side of success. I mean that very great on our side would discourage them, but if the ballance hangs even, or our advantages are inconsiderable, one cannot answer for what they may do.

I thank your Excy. for the verses, I am sure I much approve and subscribe to the first and last. I really believe that the Emperor had no other idea in his French excursion but to amuse himself; he has visited every body, seen every thing, and committed himself in nothing.

My physician sends me to Brighthelmstone for sea bathing. When I am tired of this country and my connections fall off, you will allow me to hope for a hospitable reception in Dublin Castle.

P.S. Shall I beg my best compts. to Sr. Jn. Irwin?

J. GAY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, July 30. Norwich.—I have in obedience to your Excellency's commands, enquired of the present state of the Norwich Manufactory, and the present comparative price of the English and Irish yarn.

Those from whom I have information are Messrs. Ives's, Harvey, Addey, Maltby, Thurlow, Gurney and Partridge.

They nearly agree in giving me account:—

“That now and for some time past the trade and business here in their Manufactory is brisk, their orders large, and full employment for the journeymen.”

And the inclosed† is a comparative view of prices between the Irish Bay yarn and the English oiled or half scoured yarn from 1771 to 1777.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to THE SAME.

1777, August 3. Hillsborough.—When I left London I was fully resolved to go soon after my arrival at this place, to Dublin to wait upon your Excellency; but found my little village crowded with all the gentlemen of the county at our races, which prevented me from having that honour and pleasure, and now I find our Assizes, which I must attend, come on so soon as

* Yorke.

† Enclosure lost.

to put it out of my power to leave the country. I therefore take the liberty to trouble your Excellency with a line to express how highly honoured I shall think myself if you should intend to take a view of this part of the Island, that you will be pleased to destine a few days to my cottage; the contrast between it and the palaces of Norfolk may perhaps amuse you, at all events the landlord will endeavour to make it agreeable. If I should be disappointed in my wish of seeing your Excellency, I will trouble you with a line or two upon public affairs.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, August 9. Hillsborough.—I return you my best thanks for the polite and partial sentiments your Excellency expresses of my poor endeavours to be of some service to this part of the country. I have great expectations of the benefits it will derive from your Administration. The dignity, decency and propriety of your setting out, very sufficiently warrant those expectations, and clearly evinced to me (and I have the pleasure to add, to all I converse with) that your real objects are the honour and support of the Crown, and the true interests of the country, objects so entirely connected and so mutually dependent on each other that they cannot be separated. You do me too much honour in supposing that I can offer any thoughts that can be of use to the general system of government, but in a little time I will venture a line or two for your Excellency's consideration, in regard to certain interior regulations; but not 'till I lose the hope of waiting upon you, which is not yet absolutely my case.

At the same time that I received the honour of your Excellency's letter, I got one from the present Lord Inchiquin, who knowing that I am happy in your acquaintance, desires me to mention to you the Lieutenancy of the County Clare, vacant by the death of his uncle the late Lord; I can presume to say no more to your Excellency upon that subject than I shall say to him in my answer to his letter, that it is probable his attachment to Government, his antient family and nobility, and his large property in that County, may induce your Excellency to think him the most proper person to succeed his uncle, which should it be the case, will ensure the succession to him. I have a small favour to ask of you, my dear Lord, and *par parenthèse*, will say that no person in this country that pretends to the least consequence shall trouble you less with applications than I will, tho' no one will be more steadily attached to the support of your administration. When you left London Lady Hillsborough and I applied to your Excellency in favour of a Mr. Boyd in case the Collector of Donaghadee should be promoted. Poor Boyd is dying if not dead, he is surveyor of Donaghadee, £70 per annum or thereabouts, not more; the favour I would request is that Mr. William Hull, now a Revenue Officer in a lower employment may succeed him; I should consider this as a particular mark of kindness to me. Your Excellency knows by your Norfolk and Norwich affairs how usefull and indeed necessary to one's importance in

one's country the favour and countenance of Government are ; I should therefore hope that in what relates to the County of Downe you will permitt me from time to time to lay my wishes before you, and to receive them with as much indulgence as circumstances and engagements may allow.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, August 15. Hillsborough.—Warm expressions of friendship and promises of support.

Thanks for his kind provision for Mr. William Hull.

SAME to THE SAME.

1777, Aug. 26. Hillsborough.—As to an affidavit enclosed for his consideration (not preserved) whether a proclamation should not be issued upon it. “The atrociousness and barbarity of the crime are abominable.”

EARL OF BELVEDERE to THE SAME.

1777, Aug. 31. Spa.—Hoping that his acceptance of £800 a year pension, instead of the Muster office, which had been so solemnly promised him in succession ; as well as his late offer to the King to raise a regiment of 500 men, together with his steady and constant support of government for nineteen years without any personal reward, will stand in the way of his being superseded (on account of his enforced absence) by those who have been a thorn in the sides of Government, while his family have been spending their lives and fortunes in support of it.

Etc., etc. . . .

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, Sept. 23. Jermyn Street.—I have not heard from my Lord Suffolk to-day ; but it comes into my head to mention to your Excellency my wish, that if Mr. Boscawen's relations agree with Capt. Vyse for his troop, that your Excy. would please to recommend Lieut. Vereker of the 5th Dragoons (who has been 13 years a Lieutenant, and is the eldest of that rank in the Regiment) to be Captain Lieutenant to the 1st Horse (supposing Captain Cummin to be dead) ; the officer commanding the 1st Horse having determined not to recommend the eldest Lieutenant. Then the 5th Dragoons can have no reason to complain as the Lieutenants will get a step notwithstanding Mr. Boscawen purchases into the Regiment. I should then humbly desire your Excy. to recommend Cornet Marilla of the Carabineers to be Lieutenant of Dragoons in the room of Lt. Vereker. He is the eldest cornet of the Carabineers, and was put by on the last promotion in that Regiment ; by which means your Excy. will have the giving of a Cornetcy of horse to the young gentleman you were pleased to mention to me, and seemed so interested about.

I trouble your Excy. with these lines merely for you to turn this arrangement in your thoughts, and as soon as I hear from Lord Suffolk about Vyse's business, shall take the liberty to send you a state of the succession in the manner I used to do when I had the happiness to be near you, which will point it out clearer.

Not a word yet from Sir Wm. Howe, the wind is fair, so we expect to hear every moment. General Haldiman is set out for his Government of Canada. I hear no news, when I do I shall trouble your Excy. with a letter.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the LORD LIEUTENANT.

1777, Sept. 25. Jermyn Street.—I have seen General Burgoyne's dispatch to Lord George Germain which came in this day, dated 30th *July, near Fort Edward on the Hudson's river*. He says after a most disagreeable march, attended with many difficulties, he is arrived there, that the rebels, who abandoned every post, cut down trees and threw every obstruction in his way; that they kept continually firing upon him, but without killing a single man; that they had not even touched a man of the King's troops, but had wounded some irregulars and some Indians. He adds that the troops are in perfect health and excellent spirits. The rebel army is retired to Saratoga, where it is said they mean to make a stand. By other accounts I find Genl. Schuyler has quitted the army intended to oppose Mr. Burgoyne, that Arnold has joined it with 12 pieces of brass cannon, and has taken the command, declaring he will defend Saratoga. I forgot to mention that Burgoyne says, on his march he killed and took 300 of the rebels. In a postscript to the letter to the Admiralty from Capt. Pearson, who commands the naval force with Burgoyne, he says it was resolved to march on the 5th August to attack the rebels at Saratoga.

I think this is the substance of the letters; and as no gazette will be published till Saturday, I would not omit giving your Excellency the earliest intelligence of what I knew. It is a good thing to have secured a post on the Hudson's river.

No news from Sir Wm. Howe.

Lord Suffolk still continues ill. He cannot write and I cannot see him.

GENERAL R. PEIRSON to SIR J. IRWINE.*

1777, Sept. 27. Troughill Lodge.—Has just received a letter from his regiment informing him that Capt. Chester, of the 36th Regt., in direct violation of the King's regulations, has agreed with Lt. Molyneux, of the 12th Dragoons, to sell him his Company for 1,800 guineas. The shortness of Lt. Molyneux's service, compared with that of some of the lieutenants of the 36th Regt., who are as old as most in H.M.'s service, and the

* Enclosed in the following letter.

sum offered, so much beyond H.M.'s regulations, makes the transaction a most unsuitable one, which he hopes will not be authorized by Sir J. Irwine. . . .

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, Sept. 30. Jermyn Street.—I am this moment come from Kew. Letters are come from Quebec, from merchants and gentlemen of the council there, dated the 9th August mentioning that they had heard from the Army on the 4th of that month. That Genl. Burgoyne was preparing his cannon, &c., to attack the rebels at Saratoga, but that they had fallen back to Half Moon, a post where the Mohawk river runs into the Hudson's river; where they now profess to make their stand. Genl. Burgoyne will not let time slip away, and the troops are in good health and spirits.

I spent two days with Lord Suffolk at Blackheath. He asked a thousand questions, and desired a thousand compliments to your Excellency. He is much better, and I hope in a few days will be able to go about as usual. He is most exceedingly grateful to your Excellency for your kindness to Mr. Boscawen. He has wrote into Monmouthshire to him to write without loss of time to Capt. Vyse and settle matters with him.

I have received this day the letter I take the liberty to inclose, that I may take up less of your time. I have wrote to Genl. Peirson, and have told him that it is very true Sir Capel Molyneux did sollicite your Excy. that his son might have leave to purchase a company, but that I did not understand that you had given him any hopes that it was a thing to be done soon, and certainly not to the prejudice of senior officers of service; and from what I know of your way of proceeding I did not believe it would take place, you had such care of the service of officers; that it was also true Sir Capel had spoke to me, but I had not given him any encouragement; so that he might see the apprehensions of his officers was without foundation. However if your Excellency would do me the honour to write me three or four words of comfort which I might either read or repeat to the general when I see him, with great submission, I think it would be adviseable.

Not a word from Sir Wm. Howe. I need not add that our impatience is great. I am afraid a Jamaica packet is taken.

P.S. The King is impatient for the review reports of the general officers. Perhaps your Excy. will think proper to quicken their being sent over.

TO LORD VISCOUNT WEYMOUTH from the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, Oct. 30. Dublin Castle.—I had the honor of transmitting to your Lordship, the latter end of last June a Petition from the Merchants and Traders of the City of Cork, representing

that altho' the season was then so far advanced, several thousand barrels of beef and pork remained upon hand, over and above the supplies wanted for the use of His Majesty's Army and Navy and of the several settlements, garrisons and forts abroad, as well as for the East India Company, and that being restrained by the then subsisting embargo from exporting the said provisions which are of a perishable nature to foreign markets, and being apprehensive, not only of the immediate loss, but of exposing this principal branch of trade to the danger of being diverted into other hands; they prayed for a removal or suspension of the said embargo. Your Lordship immediately returned for answer, that my letter with the petition inclosed had been sent to my Lord President, to be laid before His Majesty in Council. I also transmitted to your Lordship in July last, a petition from the Merchants of this City upon the same subject. But not having been informed of His Majesty's determination upon these petitions, I concluded that the circumstances of public affairs would not then admit either of the removal or the suspension of the embargo. I have lately been informed by different persons, that not only the Merchants and Traders but the Landholders and gentlemen of the country have expressed the strongest apprehensions, that by this restraint from exportation, so large a quantity of provisions, and especially of that inferior kind, which has usually been taken by the French, is continued upon hand, that there is danger of its being lost; and that the landholders will scarcely be able to get for their cattle the prices they paid for them when laid in to fatten. And tho' the present difficulty may have been in part occasioned by combinations amongst the graziers, and by their giving extravagant prices for their stock in the prospect of much greater exports than there was any reason to expect; yet it has been very particularly represented to me of late, that at fairs where great numbers of fat cattle used to be sold, the sales this year have been so inconsiderable, proceeding from the causes already mentioned, that the country gentlemen find great difficulty in obtaining their rents.

There has been a further meeting of the Merchants and Traders of the City of Cork who have sent up to their representatives in Parliament a petition addressed to the House of Commons, stating the general distress, as they term it, arising from the embargo, and praying the interposition of the House therein. And I understand a similar petition is preparing from the Merchants of the City of Dublin, and will perhaps be followed from other places.

It was proposed that the Cork petition should have been laid before the House yesterday, but as I should wish that the matter in question might first be submitted to his Majesty's consideration, hoping that there may be such alteration in public affairs, as will now admit of some relaxation of the embargo, either that it might be wholly taken off or for a certain limited time, so as to give an opportunity of exposing the stock on hand which it is stated will otherwise perish, or that the embargo might be confined to the provisions of a certain

quality, so that the inferior kind, which is not taken by our contractors but sold to the French, as is represented for the use of their negroes and other such purposes, might be exported. I have prevailed upon the gentlemen who were to have introduced the petition (of which I inclose a copy) to defer the presenting it for the present. It appears to me that as the rents in many parts of this Kingdom are made up and paid from the export trade, if some relaxation of the embargo could be allowed it would tend greatly to quiet the minds of the people in general, and would be a very gracious measure to this Country.

I hope therefore I may express my wishes, that it may be consistent with his Majesty's measures at this time, to give them some relief; but if reasons of state do not admit of it, I shall use my utmost endeavours to prevent any resolution upon the subject which may be disagreeable to his Majesty.

P.S. Since writing the above Mr. Daly, member for Galway gave notice that he should on Saturday next, move to take into consideration the subject of the present embargo. His Majesty's servants will endeavour to put off this motion till I shall be honoured with his Majesty's commands upon the subject, which I would therefore humbly request to receive as soon as may be convenient.

(Copy.)

LORD BARRINGTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, Nov. 1. Cavendish Square.—We are full of anxious expectation of news from Howe and Burgoyne.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to THE SAME.

1777, November 1. Hillsborough.—Your Excellency's obliging indulgence to my intrusions engages me to continue them, and I am particularly led at present to give you this trouble by having received the letter I had the honour to mention to you. I now take the liberty to enclose to you an extract from that letter, it comes from a gentleman of very good understanding, and contains very just information and sound sense tho' cloathed in plain language. I have conversed with several judicious persons upon his proposal of making every distiller contract for the whole duty which his still ought to pay if constantly worked, and they are unanimously of opinion that nothing could tend more to the encrease of the revenue and to the stopping of those abominable frauds that are committed every where, both by the corrupt connivance of gaugers and surveyers, and sometimes of higher officers, and by the fraudulent small stills. In England I understand imported spirits pay 5s. per gallon, in Ireland only 2s. 6d. I humbly think the English duty ought to be adopted here, and a proportional encrease upon the distilling at home. I know the objection, that an encrease upon the importation would prove a bounty upon running; true, but not any way adequate to the encrease of the revenue, and the advantage that would arise to the public from enhancing the

price of spirits. And if the licences were raised to 6*l.*, and put under the direction of the magistrate, I am confident that end which your Excellency does me the honour to concur with me in wishing might be in great measure attained; if the contracting as in the enclosed should be adopted. As to what I took the liberty to mention to your Excellency concerning the Absentee-tax paid by members of the British Parliament, I think it unjust and impolitic; but not proper that any alteration in it should move from your Excellency. I must now take the liberty to mention to you the pier at Donaghadee. In my Lord Harcourt's Lieutenancy I prevailed to obtain 1,000*l.* towards that necessary work, which has been carefully and judiciously laid out; and I take leave to assure your Excellency that this work is of very great importance to both kingdoms. I understand that to complete this work, which Mr. Heron viewed as he passed, it will upon estimate take near £1,700 more than they have already laid out. I pray you, my dear Lord, to favour this work, as I assure you it is not a job, and so soon as I know your resolution concerning it, the gentleman who has the conduct of it will go to Dublin to pass his accounts before the House of Commons, and to get a petition preferred if your Excellency approves of it.

I cannot help (tho' not desired) laying another matter of this kind before your Excellency. Some years ago, Mr. Hall, who was then member for this County, procured from Parliament part of a sum towards building a pier at Warren's Point, of great consequence to the preservation of vessels trading to Newry, and entering into the Bay of Carlingford. The work is in great forwardness, and the gentleman (Mr. Hall) would contract and give security for the completion of it for £500, tho' it would cost him two or three hundred additional; but as it would advantage his estate, he would willingly do it. This I also assure your Excellency is no job, but a truly public work, and I should hope your Excellency will approve of it; there is, I think, somewhat of disgrace attending works unfinished, especially when so small a sum as £500 will complete them. I feel quite ashamed at taking up so much of your time.

JOHN THOMLINSON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, Nov. 6. Holkem.*—So long a silence is a very ill requital to that compliment you were pleased to pay to a late effort of my pen, but having no public county news worth your perusal, I was willing to wait till I could at least speak agreeably upon your Lordship's private affairs which have for some time worn rather a gloomy aspect on account of poor Copeman's inability to dispose of your sheep. However it was a very general case, and I dare say the disappointment has not affected you so much as it has done your steward. But it gave me great pleasure last week to find that at Harlston Fair he had luckily

* Holkham in Norfolk.

riddled such a part of the *refuse* as to bring the best within the possibility of a wintering, on which account he had just scouted a Jew butcher's offer of 5*s.* 9*d.* per head for his lambs, upon the expectation that the present high price of Scots might extort the other 3*d.*, which is the height of his hopes. To give your Lordship some idea of the cheapness at Cawston, very tolerable lambs were sold for 3*s.* 6*d.*, so that upon the whole you have escap'd well, and when you receive the account of the present crop of corn, I have not the least doubt of the year's turning out well upon the farming line.

Copeman would not let me be satisfied with his narrative (which was not less diffuse than usual), he insisted upon my being an eye witness of your riches. In the barns I found wheat and barley up to the roofs, which were prognosticated to be made too large by some late alterations and two stacks of barley and one of prodigious fine beans in the yards besides, and such a crop of wheat upon the Aylsham Lawne as will fill them all again next harvest, so that tho' you have received a check in your sheep, it is likely to be repaid in your crops.

I made this excursion from Heydon whist-party, which was enlivened by Tom Bell's coming over to offer his attendance in the Lease Grounds to Mr. Bulwer and me, which he of course accepted, and begs leave to thank your Lordship for a good days diversion; in which two brace of pheasants fell by my twigg and one by his Wuship's. A brace of woodcocks we attacked, but in vain; they were left, I believe, untouch'd. Pheasants are extremely scarce except in such repositorys as Blickling, which induc'd me to transgress the usual stint of a brace, and may probably be the reason why these gallants with great apparatus of dogs and servants have travell'd to most of them in this country. They even attacked your Lordship's nursery by the ice house and shot very often before Tom Bell cou'd get up with them. However, tho' he drove them off, they threatened to come again next day, which they accordingly did, but Tom was ready to receive them with his gun and spaniels, and swore they should not enter the premises till some of them *died upon the spot*, which vigorous measure drove them off, but they have visited Gunton and Holt, and were coming here, but luckily have chang'd their road.

They travel without horses, and no person as yet has made them out.

The News Papers give us a happy presage of your Excellency's reign, which we pray may end as auspiciously as it has begun. Among your courtiers you will find a Mr. Roper, a son of the late Mr. Duttons, and brother to Mrs. Coke, who has changed his name for a large estate, and also a Colonel Roberts, uncle to Mr. Coke. You will also soon hear of a young divine of the name of Roberts, who is at present Chaplain to this family, but intends to visit the said Colonel, his father, upon the family's removal to town next week, when I hope their expectations will be blessed by Mrs. Coke's bringing a son, in which great work she advances rapidly.

I have had the honour of spending much of my time this summer in this house, and can justly say that though it has been constantly crowded, the honours never could have been better done. Mr. Coke still pursues his plan of ornamenting this place in the highest manner, and seems in no danger of erring upon the rock of too strict an economy like the person you mention.

By the death of his mother Sir Harbord seems determin'd to push the building of his 'house next summer which Dick Gardiner's compassion for Lady Harbord seems inclin'd to permit him to accomplish—for on that account it seems he did not challenge him at Swaffham Races, tho' fully determin'd then to take up the matter afresh—however Mr. Coke has got fairly quit of him, and I hope he is better advis'd than to proceed to further hostilities.

As I premis'd in my last your Lordship has nothing to regret on the score of sporting—in both pheasants and partridges it has been a lamentable year; nor have the woodcocks as yet made us any amends. I hope that amusement has been more compleat in Ireland, and that your gun has perform'd its usual feats.

The neighbourhood of Aylsham are much alarmed with a report that Lord Hobart was in a very ill state of health, which your Lordship's last letter to Copeman happily contradicted—you seem to have received as erroneous an account of Mr. Gay's health, who seems to be much better than usual—Mr. Coke has given him the (Wighton?) Courts, tho' much pressed to give them to Jones. It seems at last settled that all matters with Mr. Caudwell are to be amicably adjusted, he retaining his £400 per ann., but relinquishing all trust and interference—the contracts for the leases under value I hear will be quietly given up by all the tenants except Mallet, who vows he will stand a law suit.

I have already encrouch'd too much on your Lordship's patience—*ne in publica commoda peccem*, I must conclude with my best wishes for your political and private happiness and with my respects to Lady Buckingham, Lady Harriet, Henry, and Mr. and Mrs. Herne.

I go to town next week.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, November 10. Hillsborough.—I set out to-morrow for London, and give your Excellency the trouble of a line only to say that if you should have any commands on the other side of the water, which I can execute, I shall be happy to receive and obey them. I can not omitt at the same time, renewing my earnest application to obtain some remedy against the inordinate use of spirits among common people. I have allready troubled your Excellency with much upon the subject. I beg leave to add that it would be a good regulation to make the gauger pay half of the fine, upon conviction by any one else. I am confident most frauds are committed in conjunction with those gentlemen.

R. MARSHAM to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, Nov. 12. Stratton.—Favors from great men, like those from fine ladys are augmented and doubled, when they are confer'd at a time, when the granter has good reason to withhold them entirely. Such I esteem the honour of your Excellency's very obliging and entertaining letter, just after the meeting of your Parliament; when beside that important and great business, you must be weary'd with abundance of avocations and attentions. My Lord I was very impatient to see your Excellency's speech to your Parliament; which fully answer'd my raised expectation, and to prove I do not flatter, I will venture to say, I wish one article had been omitted: viz.: you say the King might have found many more able Ministers. I will not make an apology for disagreeing with your Excellency in this: for I believe myself right, and the Lord Lieutenant mistaken. Your Excellency sees I find faults from principle and conscience. I wish the opposition both in your Excellency's and the British Parlt. could say as much for themselves. But as I hate to differ with your Excellency, I will drop the subject, as I cannot give up my judgement. I am very glad things go on smoothly in Dublin, and hope they will continue in the same tract, that your Excellency may enjoy without allay a tour round a country abounding with natural beauties, which I shall enjoy again from your Lordship's pen.

When I have the honour of writing to your Excellency, I wish for some provincial news. But I know of none; only that Twiss of Norwich dy'd last week; and report says has left his large fortune equally divided amongst his children. So the traveller that made so conspicuous a figure in so many kingdoms of Europe is now reduc'd to the size of a plump Norwich weaver. News, however, may be without reaching my ears, as I am rooted down here like my trees: with this difference only, that the spring gives no new life to me. I have been removing some of the dead trees by the road side, between Blickling and Norwich, and when you return, "to join the dignity of life with ease," I hope growing plants will show themselves. My Lord it is not confin'd to Ireland that trees grow too thick. I never yet knew any man that planted the grove, that could thin it enough. I feel it for my self, and see it in all others. I remember a very large and fine wood in the High-land of Scotland (I think Lord Kinnoul's) so thick as to deprive them of heads, and the Duke of Portland's (according to the new Evelyn) must be all spoiled.

As your Lordship did not mention the contrary, I hope Lady Buckingham and all your young family are well, and the Black Rod also. I forgot whether 'tis since I wrote that I feasted on your Excellency's venison, or whether I sent my thanks which I certainly ought to have done. My wife and son desire their best respects.

An odd circumstance attended your Excellency's Letter to me. The Dublin post-mark was the same as the date, viz., 27 Oct., the London post-mark was 3 Nov.: and wrote thus by the

Norwich Post-Master. *'This Letter was dropt into the Norwich Box this 8th of Nov., 77, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.'* It did not appear to have been open'd. The Label under the Arms is smooth without the Motto. The Seal is the Arms of Hobart single.

R. MARSHAM to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

(Fragment undated.)—I know trees ought to be removed as soon as they whip each other with a moderate gale: but I love them as my children, and I cannot act with my own judgement. So I have taken a method of my own. If a tree is 50 feet high, I take off 6, 8, 10, or 12 feet: and then leave the uppermost branches a foot from the stem: the next floor of branches I leave half a yard or 2 feet long, and so downwards, leaving them longer. By this means I leave the headed tree in its natural shape, and inable it to receive the same advantage from the rains and dews as it had before. This prevents its whipping its neighbours which should be the better tree: and I flatter myself, the headed oaks may stand till they are worth 2 guineas a tree, with very little harm to the grove. They also threw out thick heads, which I hope will prevent the best trees from throwing out a great many lateral shoots, the common consequence of thinning too much at once by letting in too much air amongst them. Let me recommend this method to your Excellency. The only reason I know against it is, the headed trees will not increase so much in the stem as those untouch'd. But I had one that gained an inch this summer, and I hope every year they will suffer less than the first, and if they may stand till they are worth 2 guineas, instead of 5s., and the grove appear much thicker at a distance, I am a great gainer. But 'tis at present such a favourite hobby horse that I believe the headed trees will become in time both as good and handsom as if they were left to nature. My wife and son join in most respectful compliments to your Excellency.

P.S. My Lord, an oak I planted in 1720 is this autumn 83 feet and $\frac{1}{2}$ of timber in the body: measuring bark as timber. I believe very few under 70 years old can say so much; but I wish your Excellency may say it in time.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to THE SAME.

1777, Dec. 1. Jermyn Street.—This moment Major Keyler is arrived from Sir Wm. Howe, he left him on the 28th Octr. and Sir William's letters are dated the 26th October. The accounts formerly received are confirmed of the several actions between Sir William and the rebels. He got possession of Philadelphia on the 26th Sept^r since which there has been another action, the rebels were drove sixteen miles: our troops have behaved remarkably well in all these affairs. We have lost Brigr. Agnew and Lt.-Col. Bird, both very good men. I have not learned any other names yet, and write in great hurry, but as I know that there cannot be a gazette to-night I was resolved to give your

Excellency this confused account as better than none. The bad part of the news is, that Washington has still a *Corps d' Armée en force*, it is true that Sir W. Howe is within four miles of him, and was to attack him the first moment he could. In trying to take a fort which commands the river Delawarr, the Augusta man of war of 64 guns was run aground and could not be got off, so that our people took everything out of her and blew her up. Our grenadiers took a 32 gun frigate of the rebels. On the other hand Sir Hen. Clinton has opened the communication of the Hudson's river by taking two Forts, in which the bravery and coolness of the troops was most extraordinary. They had a march of 12 miles, at the end of which they stormed the two forts, having four hundred yards of abattis to go through defended by 40 pieces of canon loaded with grape; they never fired a shot till they got within the works. There we lost Lt.-Col. Campbell of the 52nd, and Major Sill of the 63rd.

There are bad reports, however they are but reports, about Genl. Burgoyne. I find Howe knows nothing more of him than we do.

LORD BARRINGTON to the EARL OF ANTRIM.

1777, Dec. 18. Cavendish Square.—The present situation of our affairs having induced the Ministers to think of raising some new corps, I took the earliest opportunity of communicating to them for consideration your Lordship's proposal for that purpose contained in a letter with which you honoured me last March. Augmenting the forces is purely a matter of State, and the functions of the War Office do not begin till both the measure and the manner of executing it, have been settled in the Cabinet.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, Dec. 20. Jermyn Street.—. . . We have several reports here from France that are favourable to our arms, but they are as yet only reports. In the mean time the spirit of the people seems to be raised, and we hear of offers from different places for new levies; what will most surprise you is, that there is a reason to expect an offer of that sort from London. It is certainly true (perhaps for the first time in the history of England) that the present ministers are popular. Genl. Burgoyne's letter does him harm in the publick. His charge against ministers with regard to his orders, is thought unfair; and those who are in the secret of them say it is unjust; however the ministers are determined to let the blame lie at their doors till his return, before they expose his orders to the publick view. You will I presume be astonished to know that Genl. Burgoyne sent a duplicate of his letter to Lord George to Lord Derby, and that his Lordship was actually reading to the company at Almack's that letter, much about the time Lord George sent the original to the King at the Queen's house. This makes much conversation.

At the desire of Lord Pembroke I trouble your Excellency with the inclosed. It is in favour of his near relation Mr. Evans, whose case is a hard one. I understand Lord North will also write to your Excy. on the subject. By what I hear, the poor man, his wife and children are actually starving.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1777, Dec. 21. Hanover Square.— . . . I need not tell you what has been said on this side concerning your speech, and a certain committee; I fear a degree of dissatisfaction took place *every where* but I am glad to observe that it subsides; and I assure your Excellency that I have not been idle in endeavouring to soften and to justify. Lord Carmarthen is Chamberlain to the Queen, Winchelsea and Aylesford Lords of the Bedchamber, the other vacancy being made by the dismissal of Jersey. Young West is Equerry. This intelligence may be as early as from anybody. Onslow Comptroller, Palmerston Treasury, Mulgrave Admiralty, and Worsley, in place of Hopkins dismissed, Greencloth, is no news. You have something else to do than to read my small talk, I shall therefore once more entreat you to think about correcting the intolerable drunkenness of the north.

LORD BARRINGTON to THE SAME.

1777, Dec. (?)—The error in payment of Regiments lent by Ireland, and found by Mr. Barry Barry, has been rectify'd in the Committee of Supplies. I cannot write or talk about the dreadful catastrophe of Burgoyne's army,* and I wish I could think of any other thing.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to THE SAME.

1777, Dec. 31. Jermyn Street.—The King was perfectly aware of your Excy.'s wish to gratify the Duke of Leinster, but his Majesty seems determined that the post of Quarter Master General shall be filled by one conversant in, and bred up to, that particular branch of the service, which H.M. says Col. Sandford has not been. H.M. was pleased to say that a sensible officer might make out routes and a distribution of quarters, but that it required another sort of education to mark camps, take up posts, &c., which might perhaps unfortunately become necessary for us in Ireland, and it was therefore of the greatest consequence that the person to execute that office should by no means be new in the business. I think the King had also some idea that Col. Sandford's health, he being sometimes afflicted with the gout, might render him less active than might be necessary for such an officer as the Quarter Master General in the time of actual service.

* His surrender had taken place on the 13th October.

COLONEL LELAND* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, Jan. 2.—(As to his not having obtained the appointment of Deputy Quarter Master General for Ireland, although recommended for it by Lord Buckinghamshire. Among other reasons his situation as an officer in the Guards would not admit of his residence in Ireland.) For they give out that in case of a war in Europe, your Excellency's kingdom is to be the seat of it and you are to be saved from destruction by your Quarter Master General. That I am mortify'd is very true, and not the less so that your recommendation should not take the place of every other predilection though it is the fashion to say that the (King) in military matters will be his own minister; but consequences ought to be looked to, particularly in this case, for it should not reach to Ireland.

As to American affairs, they are it is believed in a most deplorable state; Clinton very judiciously dispatch'd his Aide-de-Camp, Drummond, to make good his ground here in case of any disaster happening at New York, which is even now said to be taken, tho' not believed. He meant likewise to prepare the way for his own coming, not wishing to remain in America, things being now, there, in a state of the greatest confusion. The force he has with him does not exceed five thousand men, half of which are provincials, very few British, and the rest foreigners. He has communicated his plan of defence should he be attack'd, and the world are of our opinion—"that Clinton "will make them pay dear for the attempt—that the most "brilliant enterprize of the whole war was effected by him, and "that it was to Clinton Burgoyne was indebted for the favourable "terms granted him by Gates, who did not know how soon he "might be at Albany." Notwithstanding Mr. Burgoyne says he *dictated* to Mr. Gates, he by no means aspires to the command of the Army, foreseeing it might probably devolve upon him, from the impossibility of matters continuing in their present channel. The above is pretty much the sum total of Drummond's mission.

Much is conjectured about the future command in America, and many are named; but nothing I should imagine will be determin'd upon, till further accounts are receiv'd from thence.

The Scotch Corps are all fix'd, some of which it is thought will be raised, others not; the whole meant to be rais'd will be raw undisciplin'd men, and not fit for service the ensuing campaign.

I saw Lord G[eorge] G[ermaine] this morning, who seems quite serene and in good spirits, he told me that the late defection in your House of Commons has proved the strength of your Government, as you were so strong without them; and has given your Excellency the best and fairest ground here with all the Ministers. Whenever anything reaches my knowledge worth communicating to you, I shall not omitt giving you the earliest intelligence.

* John Leland, Lieut.-Col. of the Foot Guards, 1772, and in 1781 Deputy Governor of Cork Fort.

LORD CHANCELLOR (LIFFORD^{*}) to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, March 12.—This day the Dowager Lady Viscountess How surrender'd before me her pension of seven hundred and fifty pounds per annum upon this establishment, which she held under a grant by letters patent under the great seal of this kingdom for her life. . . . The deed of surrender, etc., remains with the Deputy Keeper of the Rolls here.

ROBERT MURRAY KEITH to THE SAME.

1778, March 20. Vienna.—I embrace with great pleasure the opportunity of obeying your Lordship's commands and of expressing my gratitude for the very obliging proofs of kind remembrance with which your Lordship honour'd me in your letter of the 13th February.

I have for many months past offer'd my best services to the sons of Lord Fingal. Your Lordship's recommendation makes me doubly zealous in my endeavours to be useful to these young gentlemen. I shall present them at Court as soon as Lent is over, and if the youngest, who I am told is desirous of entering into the Austrian Service, obtains the King's leave for that purpose, he may be assured of any little assistance I can give him in his advancement. I have desired the Abbé who is their governour to convey the same assurances to Lord and Lady Fingal, together with my best compliments.

I am here in the midst of the most extensive and formidable warlike preparations that can be conceived, tho' the moment of explosion may still be at some distance.

The Bourbon Treaty with the Rebel Colonies which the French Ambassador has just now made public here, will before this letter reaches your Lordship, have given to Great Britain the fairest opportunity of exerting her national strength, and her indignant spirit in the best and most meritorious of all causes I can have no doubt of her success, nor of that share in the honour of it which will justly fall to your Lordship in fulfilling the important duties of the high employment his Majesty has entrusted to your approved zeal and distinguished abilities. No man living can be more interested than I am in every circumstance of this decisive crisis.

JAMES FORTESCUE† to THE SAME.

1778, April 1. Dundalk Grand Jury Room.—(Introducing to him the Rev. Mr. Woolsey, who has been requested by the principal Roman Catholics of this county to deliver their address to his Excellency.)

They have done it in the most ready and cordial manner, and as I know personally many of the subscribers I do believe they

* James Hewitt, Ld. Chancellor of Ireland, created Ld. Lifford, 1767.

† The Rt. Hon. James Fortescue, M.P. for Louth and a Privy Councillor for Ireland.

are sincere. Anyhow we ought to believe them, and as a real friend to Govt. I wish the same was done in every county in Ireland. I should think it right to have it published in all the papers as an example to the other parts of Ireland. Such an event will alter the opinions of the French, etc., etc., on the continent and we should make the most of it. . . .

LORD BEAUCHAMP* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, April 9. London.—(Takes the liberty of recommending to Lord Buckinghamshire's notice the resolutions which the House of Commons has come unto in favour of the Trade of Ireland.)

Though the House seemed almost unanimous in the first stage of the business, I foresee some symptoms of opposition from Lancashire and a part of Scotland, which makes me vastly anxious that before the House meets again after the Easter Recess your Excellency should (if the subject strikes you in the same light) assist our endeavours in the House of Commons by your representation of the necessity of gratifying the people of Ireland at this critical moment, to which they seem particularly entitled from their late very generous and handsome conduct.

I think your Excellency's interposition in the present instance essentially necessary to turn the scale in favour of Ireland against the combination which I see forming against the propositions which Lord Nugent and I have brought forward.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to THE SAME.

1778, April 18.—I take the liberty to enclose to your Excellency a letter I have received from a Councillor Maffet. You will see that it relates to a convict at Downpatrick. The man condemned is a young fellow of Hillsborough and hitherto has borne, as I hear, a good character. In his present case it does not appear to me that anything can be said in his favour, but that the act was committed in a riot. Whether that circumstance may induce your Excellency to respite him till you can have the Judge's Report I can not tell, but I hope he will meet the fate he deserves, and the Judge is the fittest person to determine what that may be. This unhappy accident is one among many others, produced by the cursed drinking of spirits; I believe the rioters, on both sides, were intoxicated almost to madness with them. I have not troubled your Excellency with my remarks upon the report you was pleased to send me. It appears to me not to be of consequence at present, but I will not omitt it all together, for I think it is easy to shew that both reasoning and facts are ill founded.

I understand the convict is to suffer next Saturday.

* Rt. Hon. Francois Seymour Conway Viscount Beauchamp, M.P. for Antrim Co., and for Oxford in England. A member also both of the English and Irish Privy Council.

HUGH MAFFETT to the EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH:

1778, April 10. Carrickfergus. On circuit, in Dublin, Bolton Street.—My business is of an urgent nature and I cannot waste time in apology—my application is to save the life of a fellow creature, who was yesterday condemned to die. Francis Bulger is the name of this unfortunate man, and the crime of which he has been convicted, was the murder of one Gray, upon your Lordship's course of Hillsborough, about seven months ago. The attorney employed for the convict was young in business, rash, and ignorant—had he made due preparation for the trial the verdict must I think, have been manslaughter, but he was every way unqualified for managing the defence, and his miserable client stands now upon the verge of life. I was one of the counsel and I will tell your Lordship what we proved. The people of Broomhedge and Trumney were noted as rioters, and from this latter place came Gray. They had conceived malice against the inhabitants of Hillsborough and publicly denounced vengeance, on which account the alarmed people resolved to be upon their guard. On the day of the bloodshed, when both parties seemed to menace deadly mischief Counsr. Smith and a Mr. Lethun addressed the people of Hillsborough and prevailed on them to disperse. They even promised they would not strike unless they should be first assaulted, but this provocation was not a moment withheld. Lethun declared that immediately on their dispersal, the Broomhedge and Trumney mob came on, hurraing, hooting, at the people of Hillsborough and cursing them as cowards, and by another witness we showed that they *first* came to blows. We showed further, by the witnesses produced on the side of the prosecution, that the deceased had been very active in the riot, and that he had knocked down, at least, eight men with his own hand. In the progress of the unhappy difference he was beat, however, from the field, and pursued by Bulger, who seized him as he was mounting a ditch, and stabbed him in the kidneys, with a bayonet, which had been fastened on a pole, of which wound he shortly died. It did appear indeed that Bulger had boasted, *on the moment*, that he had thrust the weapon six inches into the body of Gray, who had only a cudgel in his hand, but still this expression was clearly used in heat of blood, and we accounted for the bayonet by showing, *satisfactorily*, that Mr. Gawen Hamilton, late governor of the Corporation, had ordered a number of those weapons into the hands of the Hillsborough people, to awe disorder, and terrify the unruly into peace. In a word, my Lord, it seems undoubtedly a *Jury Case* of Manslaughter, and since the character of the unhappy prisoner is such as must recommend him, I do most earnestly beseech your Lordship to interfere with government in his behalf. His execution is fixed for this day fortnight at Down, so that, if your compassion can be interested, a minute must not be lost. My abrupt manner will be accounted for from the particularity of the occasion, and your noble mind will excuse me for any violation of decorum.

I ought to have mentioned to your Lordship that Counsr. Smith did not attend to give his testimony, nor had he been summoned for that purpose. We therefore moved to put off the trial but our motion was refused. His testimony would have changed the complexion of this affair.

EARL OF SANDWICH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, May 4th. *Private*.—Upon the notice we received of a rebel privateer being in St. George's Channel we sent the Stag frigate of 28 guns in pursuit of her, and she sailed on that service from Spithead the 22nd of last month, the Thetis of 32 guns is sailed from the Clyde on the same errand, and the Heart of Oak armed vessel of 20 guns and the Boston of 28 are also in pursuit of her. Your Excellency may be assured that every possible attention will be paid by the Admiralty to the security of the coasting trade of Ireland, and it is not want of inclination but want of means of doing it that prevents our having a larger number of ships stationed for that purpose; but till we have a larger supply of frigates from abroad, or can procure men enough for the ships we have ready to receive them all our exertions will come far short of our wishes.

If the towns upon the coast of Ireland could be prevailed on to furnish us a number of good seamen we should be much better enabled to give them proper protection; this has been done with good effect in many parts of England, and I hope that the example will be followed on your side of the water; but at the same time it is necessary for me to add that ships alone cannot protect any coast entirely without there are troops and batteries on shore.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to THE SAME.

1778, May 11. Hanover Square.—I am much obliged to your Excellency for the favour of the letter I have this moment received. I think you quite right in not shewing mercy to the unfortunate convict, as there was no foundation for it. Such mercy is cruelty to the public.

The Irish Bills are now before the House of Commons here, but to say the truth, I think the success doubtful. If they fail, possibly your Session will not conclude so happily as is to be wished. The best way is to forward business as much as you can, so as to hasten the Prorogation.

I should be glad to know how you stand with regard to Ensigns' commissions, raising men, perhaps I would recommend one or two.

The DUKE OF ATHOLL to THE SAME.

1778, May 15. Greenock.—Recommending to his notice the officers of the Atholl Highlanders, especially the commanding officer, Major Dalrymple. By the King's permission the Duke

has kept the Lieut.-Colonelcy and two of the Companies open for the present. The Corps has been raised but a short time, and unfortunately are at present without colours and caps.

EDWARD BACON* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, June 4. Bruton Street.— . . . I hope the Exportation Act for Ireland will give satisfaction there.

I am sorry that the advocates for that and the other Bills gave an expectation to the Irish of many things, that were impossible for England to grant.

The over zeal of some gentlemen was very injudicious, as you very wisely observe, on the outset, in the first resolutions of the committee, and rais'd such a storm as augur'd very bad consequences on this side of the water.

However wisdom prevail'd, and only one of the resolutions passed with great amendments into an Act of Parliament. But I cannot help observing a little on the shape in which it was brought in. The title was for exportation of *certain* goods from Ireland, and the enacting clause, all goods. Wool and woollen goods only are excepted. In the preamble, the Act of the 12th of C. II., entitled "An Act for the encouragement of Trade," &c., is inserted, which was a gross mistake, for the relief desir'd was from the Act of the 15th C. II. Your Lordship, I am sure, have the Bill as it was brought in and the Act as it now stands, to which I refer you for the truth of my observation. In the two divisions in the course of this business I voted in the favour of it. In the debates there was a great deal said about the compact between the two kingdoms in King William's time that England should have the woollen manufactures and Ireland sho'd have the linen.

Earl Nugent has given notice that in the beginning of the next Session of Parliamt. he will move for a Bill to allow the exportation from Ireland of a certain kind of woollen manufactures, and if he should persist in it I apprehend that all the different parts of G^t Britain any ways concerned in the produce of wool or woollen manufactures will warmly oppose and join the cotton manufacturers who are very much hurt with what has already been done for Ireland.

My constituents wrote very earnestly to me that it was absolutely necessary to prohibit the sending the woollen manufactures of G^t Britain out of Ireland for if that was to be permitted the Irish wou'd have an opportunity of exporting large quantities of their own woollen manufactures along with and under colour or denomination of being British. This was what was their opinion after mature deliberation.

I am extreamly concerned at the distress of both Kingdoms, but will not trouble your Lordship with the particulars as you certainly know from your high situation the state of one, and the

* M.P. for Norwich, 1756-1784, one of the Commissioners of the Board of Trade in 1760.

other from the accounts you must receive of the scarcity of money, the low price of the funds, and that no merchants can get any bankers to discount bills either foreign or domestic.

I shall go into Norfolk in a few days, where I intend to stay till next winter, and if I can be of any service to your Lordship I shall with pleasure receive your commands.

The Norfolk Militia I hear are to go into Warwickshire.

W. W. BULWER to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, July 2. Heydon.—Is happy in the thoughts of his son being under his Lordship's protection.

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE to THE SAME.

1778, July 18. Nutwell.— . . . You were pleased last year to grant me a reversionary lease of the moiety of the Fishery of the River Tavy in the parish of Beer Ferris. In May last I was informed by my servants that Mr. Short had let a fishery of the River Tavy in Beer Ferris to some men of that parish. In a few days after I saw Mr. Gullet your steward here and represented to him what had been done by Mr. Short and that though it was a temporary injury to me, as your tenant, it was more materially injurious to your Lordship, who had a permanent interest. I likewise particularly stated to him the manner in which Mr. Snow acted on a similar occasion. . . .

(These representations having been ineffectual, Sir Francis Drake applies directly to Lord Buckinghamshire, at the same time enclosing a letter from his late steward, Mr. John Edgcombe, which throws a further light on the question.)

(*Enclosure.*)

JOHN EDGECOMBE to SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.

1752, June 5.—Mr. Snow has been with me. He said the information you have had of his authorizing any person to fish this season is false. He owns that he fished last year too far in your right, not knowing then the extent of the lease, on sight of which he is now satisfied you have all Lord Buckingham's right to the fishery, but he saith that the liberty of landing fish on that Lord's land is not exclusive of the like liberty granted or which may be given to others. Mr. Snow saith he pays yearly to the Prince of Wales (as Mr. Hurrel did) 1s. for the liberty of fishing in the River Tavy, that the Corporation of Saltash claim the like right, but that he has prevented their having any benefits of such right by forbidding them to land on Beer-side, and prevailing on Mr. Heywood to deny any landing on his side. In this he thinks he is not your enemy, but rather may be esteemed a friend. After all he will do nothing to affront you, but he hopes you will excuse him in preserving the *right of his parsonage* by exerting his right of fishing under the Prince, which he will make no other use of than for diversion.

REV. MR. SHORT to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

N.D.—(Begging for the rest of his Donation (100*l.*) to the Exmouth Chapel, which has already been built) and “finished as handsomely as the money subscribed would permit, and indeed if your Lordship had not given so generously it never would have been built, by which you have much obliged the inhabitants of Exmouth, and it is to be hoped will greatly promote the cause of Religion.”

SIR JOHN IRWINE to THE SAME.

1778, July 27. Head Quarters, Clonmel Camp.—I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that I found the camp here in good order and more regular than I could have expected (considering the number of young men and officers) owing to the great care of Lt.-General Cuninghams and the attention of the Major Generals. The weather being extremely bad, I am in great pain for the health of the troops, and for the horses of the cavalry. All possible care has been, and will be, taken to prevent as far as can be the bad effects of it.

I must entreat that your Excellency will be pleased to send me Lt.-Colonel Vallancy's map of the South of this country. I find it will be impossible for me to carry on the service without it. If your Excellency would order it to be sent to me to the Camp at Kinsale, whither I am going immediately, it will be of great use.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1778, Aug. 1. Innishannon.—Early this morning I received the map, for which I return your Excellency my humble thanks. Great care shall be taken of it.

I have found this camp in tolerable order, the troops are straightened in room, but they are healthy, have had good dry weather, and I hear of no complaints as to provisions or behaviour.

There being no field officer with the 18th Regt. of Dragoons (Col. Lyon being sick in quarters), is not only very improper, but very inconvenient, and the eldest captain of that Regiment (Walmsley) being major of Brigade, adds to the inconveniency. I should therefore hope your Excellency would think it right to order Major Vyse to join his regiment during the encampment. I mention it also for his sake, lest the King should be displeased with him; and though his Majesty should say nothing about it at present, yet when the time came to do Major Vyse some good, an objection might then be made to him on this account. The post of major is so very essential, especially at this time, that if your Excellency could spare both him and Major Southwell,* for some little time, it would be both beneficial to the Service, and to the gentlemen concerned.

* Both Major Vyse and Major Southwell were A.D.C. to the Ld. Lieutenant.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, Aug. 2. Head Quarters, Innishannon.—. . . I am extremely sorry that your Excellency has thought fit to recommend the captain-lieutenant of the 30th regiment for the vacant company, it will be a distressing blow to a great many people; for the capt.-lieut. was so distressed that he could not shew his head and would have been thrown into jail, if your Excellency had not consented to his selling his commission (which he bought) and after that consent was given, he would have been arrested, if the lieutenant who was to buy of him, had not advanced him the greatest part of the purchase money to stop the mouths of his creditors, and he had leave given him to leave the regiment; now how to recover that money so advanced to captain Gibbs, I cannot see, but I foresee many disagreeable circumstances which may arise from overturning the arrangement already made, both in point of rank and other circumstances. I should therefore most humbly suggest for your consideration, that your Excellency would let the purchase of the captain-lieutenancy go on as originally proposed; that you should be pleased to recommend captain-lieutenant Jacob of the 11th Regt. for the vacant company in the 30th Regt., and Mr. Hobart for the captain-lieutenancy in the 11th Regt. I mention Capt. Jacob because he is the eldest capt.-lieut. in the army here, except Capt. Haste of the 68th, but he is so old a captain that he prefers remaining in the 68th because whenever he gets a company in that Regt. he will take rank of half the captains. If your Excellency will adopt this proposal no harm will be done; a capt.-lieut. will be gratified, and I foresee no inconvenience that can happen, whereas I foresee many if you do not. I therefore most humbly recommend this matter to your Excellency.

I propose leaving this camp for that at Clonmell to morrow. I hope to get there in two days (for it is slow travelling in this country) and there I must remain some days, having many things to arrange, and not having once been able to see the troops perform any one thing, from the incessant bad weather we had during the two days I was there; after which I shall pay my duty to your Excy. at Dublin.

Something must be thought of to prevent the desertion, and some way fallen upon to try to fill up the augmentation, which I do not find as successful as I could wish. On both these matters I shall be glad to hear your Excellency's sentiments, and receive your commands.

Fresh disputes and complaints about the 18th Regt. of Dragoons, which make me repeat my wish that Major Vyse might be sent down during the encampment.

The EARL OF CLANBRASSIL to THE SAME.

1778, August 7. Dundalk.—Was so persuaded of the expediency of the Popery Bill, that he had already sent his proxy to Lord Clermont before he received his Excellency's letter.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, August 10. Clonmel.—I am honoured with your Excellency's letter of the 7th and own that I am not much pleased with the account of our fleet; being persuaded that the French will make out a very favourable story for themselves; however I hope we may not hear more disagreeable accounts from sea.

In the arrangement which I had humbly the honour to submit to your Excellency I protest I had nothing in view but to prevent confusion and trouble, both which must now inevitably happen. I know nothing of the parties, hardly by sight; but if your Excy. had pleased to let the purchase go on in the 30th Regiment, and have recommended your nephew for another captain-lieutenancy totally distinct from that, there could have been no confusion, nor no one could have been dissatisfied; whereas now, many will be dissatisfied in point of rank, and distressed in point of money, and I do not see how the money can be got back which has been advanced to Captain Gibbs. Col. Goold (the Commanding officer of the Regiment) tells me that the lieutenant and ensign who had advanced the money must sell their commissions, and he says they are both very deserving officers.

I propose putting this corps in motion to-morrow as if they were going towards an enemy, to teach them what they must carry, and, as far as possible to prevent confusion if that event was to happen, to accustom them to being moved: I shall march in two columns towards a place called Fethard, where we can easily draw up: I hope this may be executed without hurry and the loss of any of our things.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1778, August 15. Head Quarters, Clonmel.—I should be glad to know the sort of intelligence Lord Weymouth has sent your Excellency with regard to the threats of the enemy against our coasts by their privateers, because perhaps it may be necessary to make some change in the disposition of our troops. Your Excellency does not say whether they are French or American privateers.

I must entreat your Excellency to refuse sending two companies from the troops in Ireland to defend the Isle of Man. It is true that ever since that Island has been taken from the Duke of Atholl, while troops were wanted there, they were sent from hence; but it must be considered we did not want troops here at that time, and that there were few in England, now that we want troops, and that there are so many in England the case is far different. Added to what your Excellency was pleased to say to Lord Weymouth respecting numbers here, give me leave to say that besides what we want to complete, many of those we have are not fit to join their regiments, so that of our real fighting men our number is very low. If you take them from

any of the regiments in camp, you will break the regiments from whence they shall be taken all to pieces, especially their light companies being taken from them, as their Grenadiers must also, if we come to have any thing to do; and I think they cannot be spared from the present garrison of Dublin. Whereas in England they have a large body of Militia, and several companies of Invalids, who are idle, and can be easily spared from that part of England which is as near the Isle of Man as Ireland is. I am fully persuaded that the sole reason for applying to your Excy. was, because troops formerly went from Ireland to the Isle of Man and that upon a proper representation from your Excellency (the face of things being so totally changed since that was the practice) the idea of it will be dropped on the other side of the water. With regard to numbers who join, I had but too strong a proof of it the other day, when I drew out this army here to perform some manœuvres, and I found the number of fighting men infinitely short of the numbers in my returns; that is, the men were present, but forced to be turned out of the ranks when we began to fire, &c. I shall not be more particular on that head now because I hope to have the honour of making my bow to your Excy. in eight or ten days' time, when I shall have an opportunity of conversing with your Excy. And the less we talk of our weakness the better, except to those who must know it.

The SPANISH AMBASSADOR [LE MARQUIS D'ALMADOVAR] to the
EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778. Londres ce 18^{me} Août.—Expressions of friendship towards Lord Buckinghamshire and towards the English nation. (*French.*)

LORD TOWNSHEND to THE SAME.

1778, August 21. Portman Square.—You observe very justly that the Ministers when they write only on great official points, omit interesting circumstances unconnected with the dispatch. I am happy to inform your Excellency that the two hulks are sailed with the Field Artillery. One man on board them who is to remain is as gallant and as distinguished a man in the Delawar as ever dealt in this matter. I shall soon send the light guns—which have been cast and perfected since the order came, and could not in our vast expenditure be ready before the 1st week of next month.

The artillery men from Ireland have been instructed by Capt. Congreve, an officer of great merit and service in the application both of his and Genl. Desagulier's guns, and the men have been very attentive and are very clever.

I inclose your Excellency what I believe to be very good intelligence. It is from a great patriot in opposition, who has

failed in no information he has given the Houses. It is very formidable, and if not defeated, Ireland, I fear, will soon have Spain as well as France to look to.

Our best compliments to Mr. Conolly when you see him.

(*Enclosure.*)

The French Fleet were certainly to sail from Brest, August the 20th, 1778. Their force were 38 ships of the line, 28 frigates, 5 fire ships. Admiral Keppel expected to sail the 20th also.

The EARL OF HUNTINGDON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, August 21. London.—A letter of introduction to be delivered by Col. Murray of the Guards, uncle to the Duke of Athole.

“I hear from every quarter that the prediction I made to Lady Buckingham and to everyone else *that she would play the part of a Queen better than any*, is fully verified.”

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to THE SAME.

1778, August 22. Hill Park.—I think I may now congratulate your Excellency upon your having gotten through the longest and most difficult Session of Parliament I ever remember in Ireland. Your success in it is very much to your own honour, and gives very great pleasure to your friends, I am heartily sorry that I cannot conveniently go over to Hillsborough this year, to express mine to you in person, but I hope your Excellency will give me full credit for it, when I assure you I yield to none of them in that respect. If however the Militia is to be embodied, I apprehend that I must contrive to slip over for a few weeks, for as I am Lieutenant of Downe, I would not wish the Militia of that great protestant County should be regulated without me; I therefore request the favour of your Excellency to let me know your intentions with regard to it, that I may regulate myself accordingly. I know Barrington is a constant intelligence to you, I therefore do not pretend to send you news, indeed my situation hardly enables me to hear any before it may have reached the Castle of Dublin. The Duke of Ancaster's successor is not yet named, nor does it that I can learn yet transpire who is likely to succeed him. I am going into Staffordshire to visit my daughter Charlotte, if therefore your Excellency should have leisure to honour me with a line, I pray you to direct at John Chetwynd Talbot's, Esquire, Ingestrie, near Litchfield.

LORD TOWNSHEND to the LORD LIEUTENANT.

1778, August 29th. Portman Square.—You observe in one of your letters to me, if I do not mistake, that the political occurrences which do not relate to your department are not considered as matters of communication; I know it to be so, and have felt the awkwardness of that circumstance when in Ireland,

and it is upon this ground alone that I presume to trouble you with the inclosed, which is the intelligence of this day. I have it from Mr. Agar, who has it from office. It affords a better prospect as to our American affairs altho' very bad. Ld. Howe's abilities and the confidence of the sailors there may yet do great things.

We may expect in a few days very deciding events from Mr. Keppel if the French will meet him again, probably they may steer for the Spanish Coast, as they may not be so strong as he is, and endeavour a junction with their Toulon ships.

I hope the hulks with the medium guns will soon arrive in Dublin Bay, as they sail'd under convoy from Plymouth, and I shall send the light field guns very soon, which I believe are well calculated for that service, and the sooner they go the better, as I find they now are likely to be in fashion here, General Keppel having desired four of them for Coxheath. They shall be replaced as soon as possible.

DUKE OF GORDON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, Sept. 1. Gordon Castle.—I hope your Lordship will excuse me for giving you this trouble—it is at the earnest request of Mr. Shaw who is very desirous to have the honour of being introduced to your Lordship—he is the person who lately published an analysis of the Galic or Erse language, since which he has made a tour thro' the Highlands and Western Islands of Scotland in order to pick up materials for a dictionary to which is to be added fragments of ancient poetry of Fingal, songs, &c.—he is now going to Ireland to collect every thing that may be of use to him before his publication and to get as many subscribers to this work in that country as he can—if your Lordship will honor him with your name as a subscriber I am persuaded it will be of the utmost consequence to him, and will be very obliging to me—I have taken the liberty to enclose his proposals.

I have been very busy since I came to this country in recruiting and hope very soon to have my regiment compleat as we are now about 900 strong.—I hope Lady Buckingham and your Lordship enjoy perfect health. I should be really very happy to take a trip over with Lady Westmorland to pay my court at the Castle, but I am now a kind of a prisoner having the command of part of this coast to watch for the French privateers.

EARL OF ALDBOROUGH to THE SAME.

1778, October 15. Belan.—(Expostulating with great irritation at having been addressed *thro' a third Hand* in answer to a confidential letter.)

“Noblemen will not like being classed with the canaile, or
“relish letters wrote by clerks in office, or in truth by any but
“the Person they address,” etc., etc.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, October 23. Royal Hospital.—Lieutenant Doughty of the 32nd having been returned absent without leave since the month of March last, and it having been reported to me by Lieutenant-General Cunninghame, as well as by Lieutenant-Colonel Fletcher, the Commanding Officer of that regiment (two of whose letters on that subject I have already had the honour to lay before your Excellency) that though Lieutenant Doughty has been repeatedly ordered to his post he has not joined the regiment, I therefore think it my duty to represent the same to your Excellency and to submit, whether in order to preserve discipline, it may not be proper to lay this very extraordinary conduct of Lieutenant Doughty before his Majesty.

EARL OF THANET to THE SAME.

1778, October 28. Bath.—Has been very bad. Warm thanks for kind letter and for remembering him in the midst of business.

EARL OF DROGHEDA* to THE SAME.

1778, November 3. Aix in Provence.—Had obtained leave from his Majesty to come abroad for his health. Two winters have not been enough to reestablish it, and he has to beg for a further extension.

Though convinced that the business of his Department will not suffer in the hands of so able an officer as Mr. Ward, yet he is miserable at his enforced absence.

EARL OF SUFFOLK to THE SAME.

(*Private.*)

1778, Nov. 7. Duke St., Westminster.—(Recommending to his notice the Reverend Mr. Champayne, a brother of Lady Paget.)

It is a mortifying circumstance that we are to meet Parliament without having beaten the French fleet in Europe or America! But we have been more fortunate in the arrivals of our trade and the captures made upon that enemy. I trust however we shall not be only commercially successfull hereafter.

FRANCIS MATTHEW† to THE SAME.

1778, November 17. Dublin.—A petition in favour of the unfortunate Mr. Baker, under sentence of death. Knows that it is his Excellency's established rule to take the report only from the Judge, &c., &c.

* Major-General Charles, Earl of Drogheda, Master-General of Ordnance in Dublin.

† M.P. for Tipperary, and created Baron Llandaff of Thomastown in 1783.

EARL OF ALDBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, November 20, Friday noon.—I called at my Lord Chancellor's this morning and his Lordship's opinion is that you may at pleasure appoint Governors to Counties in the room of others without any criminal process, that it has been done, and he would tell your Excellency so, whenever you mentioned the affair to him.

I am the better pleased at this, because it saves me the delay and trouble of such process which I had determined upon if necessary, for which the affidavits against him in King's Bench for disturbing instead of preserving the peace and good order of the country and the mandamus's and informations granted against him afford sufficient grounds, and as your Excellency was pleased to say you approved of me in his room, I shall be extremely obliged to you for the appointment soon as may be, the officer on whom I called (when I missed finding your Excellency either time at home) at the Secretary's office having informed me, it is a business quickly done, there being blank commissions ready for filling up soon as your Lordship pleased to give the orders.

I believe it will be sufficient to say therein that you have been pleased to appoint Edward Earl of Aldborough Governor of the County Wicklow in the room of the Hon^{ble} Benjn. O'Neal Stratford, and indeed in my application, and your Excellency's complying therewith it was understood by me and I believe the county in general, that he was only as my locum tenens.

I shall call at the Secretary's office to-morrow, when I suppose the commission will be made out.

JOHN HELY HUTCHINSON (Provost), to THE SAME.

1778, November 29.—I had the honour of your Excellency's Letter, and submit in all things with the most cheerful resignation to his Majesty's pleasure. From the obliging expressions in your Excellency's letter, from the promise of Sir John Heron that his Majesty shou'd be acquainted with the constant support which I had given to the measures of Government during the last session, and from your Excellency's kind acceptance of my services at the conclusion of it, I must flatter myself that I have not, thro' any fault of mine, been depriv'd of the favour which I have had the honour of receiving from your Excellency.

I have, my Lord, unconnected with any party in many different administrations and in many different conjunctures, steadily and uniformly supported the measures of his Majesty's Government in this country during the whole course of his reign, and I am happy in the hopes that, under the administration of Lord Buckingham, the countenance and support of Government will not be withdrawn from an old and faithful servant of the King.

RICHD. OWEN CAMBRIDGE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, Dec. 3. Twickenham.—I rejoice to hear Lady Buckinghamshire is arrived well. I do not forget that your Lordship required of me, at parting, that I should give you a letter when there was anything to be said from hence. It is a very strange thing that the whole of this summer should have past in expectation, and not one event should have happen'd to decide on any councils, but a long state of sameness should leave us still in the same anxiety. The proof of this is the King's speech. I am of opinion that could we sleep away the winter, as we have the summer, we must gain our point, for America can neither hold out with ability or unanimity without some event of *éclat* in its favour or such as may be held out to the deluded people as seeming so. That we are not in the best state of ability is certain, but comparatively with America or even France we are certainly best able. Great honor is done to your friend Stanley in that admirable piece of ridicule 'the Anticipation,' by giving him a speech so true, so argumentative and yet so short, by merely showing that France is quite at a stand; and however some people in Holland may be troublesome, I am assured the Dutch will not lend France a penny.

Your Lordship gave me another thing in charge:—to watch the Navigation and by no means to relax in what we have obtained by the clause in the Act to have no horses. I have never used your Lordship's name but firmly taken on my self to refuse them, proving that it would be the inevitable ruin of our much admired walk and, besides that the banks which are not secured by wood work are continually worn away by the last hindmost horse, it is confest there can be no way found to prevent its being the common and crowded ride of the whole country. Whatever I have said to prevent horses here I have never proposed (to save our side) to send 'em over to the t'other, but to go on still with *men*. The Committee of Navigation determine to have horses and to *embank* on the other side, offering at their own expense to raise the gardens so that they may overlook and not be overlook'd by the towing path beneath, and to pass the Duke of Montagu's by a long line, and at the end of his garden change horses, and ballast the river to go on that side. I have nothing to do with this, but the Richmond people have been moving to throw it on us, and even offer'd to let the horses pass the bridge toll free. They have made parties in the town and declared to the Committee they were sure of gaining your Lordship's consent. I suppose they mean to importune Mr. Hobart, who will hardly throw an evil (if it was one) from Richmond upon Marble Hill, especially as he knows it would be of no avail without *my* consent. I am afraid I have been long, but I was willing your Lordship should not have an imperfect account of this, or any affair: and now to be short, I recommend your Lordship to write to me that you hear there are who wish to ask your Lordship a very unreasonable request

which you cannot grant: and if this be done soon it may prevent a great deal of trouble, which I have but just learnt has been brewing a great while, though the Committee assured them they will make so handsome a terrass walk without their gardens, that the people of Richmond shall be gainers of a walk on their side without spoiling their walk on this, and the Duke of Montagu assures me he dreads to have it on this side, and has no objection to the way proposed, and Lady Cooper acquiesces for her terrass which is to be widen'd for the path. I have taken the liberty to write to your Lordship with the freedom and shortness of business, and shall receive the shortest line from your Lordship with due acknowledgement.

GENERAL R. PEARSON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1778, Dec. 4. Southampton.—Communicating to him his appointment to the command of the 13th Regt. of Dragoons, a mark of the King's approbation "to the commander of the Camp at Warley." Some further personal honours which have been paid him are reported in the *Morning Post* of October 26, 1778 (here also related).

SIR JOHN IRWINE to THE SAME.

1778, December 29. Royal Hospital.—I am much concerned to find from Mr. Hamilton's letter of the 27th that some expression in mine of the 26th to your Excellency had given you offence, which I most assuredly did not, nor certainly could not, mean, otherwise than so far as I had the misfortune to differ in my opinion of the measure from your Excellency and as my protest against it.

I beg leave to assure your Excellency, and I hope you are persuaded, that there is no person more desirous upon every occasion to shew every respect to your Excy., and (I repeat it once more) a ready obedience to your commands, than I.

ACCOUNT OF TAKING ST. LUCIA.*

1778.—On the 9th of December Commodore Hotham with the troops arrived at Barbadoes, joined Admiral Barrington and sailed the 12th for St. Lucia, landed the troops the 14th on that island. D'Estaing appeared with 10 sail of the Line and a number of Frigates, having 5,000 men on board, landed them, attacked the British troops in their entrenchments on the 18th in three columns, the 1st led by himself, the 2nd by Count de Bonillé were received on the point of the bayonet and repulsed with the loss of 405 killed and 900 wounded. About 140 British killed and wounded. Attempted to attack the Fleet without success, sailed with all his force for Martinique the 29th, leaving the English in possession of the Island, which capitulated in

* The source of this account is not given.

sight of the French fleet. It is supposed this sudden movement was occasioned by intelligence of Admiral Byron's squadron approaching. Brigadier Meadows slightly wounded in the arm.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

1779, Jan. 4.—Is unable to satisfy Ld. Carlow as to an application he has made for a particular living for his son.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

(*Private.*)

1779, Jan. 14. Dublin Castle.—In the last letters which I received from Sir Rd. Heron previous to Lord North's leaving London, he gave me reason to hope that there was an intention of relieving Ireland from the expense of the three thousand men upon this establishment now serving abroad, and one of His Lordship's Cabinet has communicated it as a matter determin'd to our Attorney General. I should rather think this information premature, as Lord North would scarcely absolutely decide upon a measure of such moment without in some degree consulting the other servants of the Crown. There is nothing new to offer upon the State of this Kingdom, the whole has been represented in the fullest and fairest light, that those who have the care of the whole Empire may determine upon such regulations as, consistent with the general good, may be adopted for this detach'd part.

It is said that the friends of the Agar family express their dissatisfaction upon the promotion of Dr. Fowler* with a warmth bordering upon resentment. Yet it appears to me that the favors of Government have rather been lavish'd upon them. The Bishop of Cloyne, discontented as he may be, is morally sure of being recommended to the Archbishoprick of Cashell,† Lord Clifden‡ has just been created a Peer and is a Commissioner of the Revenue. As he sold his seats in Parliament he has no influence in the House of Commons, and I should suppose that Mr. Ellys holding a Capital Office in England is not intitled to advance claims here. He had however weight sufficient at Westminster to prevent the removal of the Dublin Custom House, which evidently, besides great inconvenience to trade, loses many thousand pounds to the Revenue. In this and in some other instances English Ministers are most amazingly mistaken with respect to the consequence of individuals here.

The Roman Catholicks are in the highest good humor, the outrageous and illiberal conduct of the American Congress has greatly cool'd the ardour of many of their reputed friends in Ireland, and upon the fullest enquiry I am realy of opinion that the country has at no period been in general better dispos'd.

* Dr. Fowler, Bishop of Killaloe, was made Archbishop of Dublin in December, 1778.

† The Right Rev. Charles Agar, Bishop of Cloyne, was made Archbishop of Cashell, in August, 1779.

‡ James Agar was created Baron Clifden (in Kilkenny), July, 1776.

They will struggle with any difficultys they find themselves equal to, but the wisdom of England must cautiously prevent those difficultyes from increasing beyond their strength.

In a letter from Mr. Jenkinson he mentions the improbability of any further indulgence being given to the Irish trade. I do not deem myself competent to decide upon the species of indulgence which England should hold out to this kingdom; yet something should necessarily be done and that with little delay.

BISHOP OF NORWICH* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, Feb. 2. London.—Must trouble his Excellency with a few lines relative to a person who by his many and great faults has render'd his family (I fear not render'd himself) very unhappy. I allude to Mr. Greene, the chancel of whose church Hunworth or Stody, has been entirely demolish'd by the high wind on the 1st of January. It has been represented to me that the maintenance of five children depends upon the receipts from these livings, and I am requested to permit his manager to wall up the east end of the chancel instead of rebuilding it, so as to leave convenient room for the communion table. And I am so well satisfied with the reasonableness of the request, considering the great distress of the poor children, that I am very ready to comply with it if it meets with your Excellency's approbation.

EARL OF ALDBOROUGH to THE SAME.

1779, Feb. 12. Nassau Street.—Mr. Saunders has chearfully taken the office of Sheriff upon him this year to accommodate your Excellency, tho' very injurious to his affairs to be detained a second year from England. The last year he was prevented from going by his successful endeavours to suppress at the risque of his life civil disturbances and by a villainous prosecution against him for murder, which he purposely put off for two assizes, he was most honourably acquitted of, and I believe there are few gentlemen in the Queen's County and other neighbouring ones, who do not in a great measure owe the peaceable possession of their estates to his spirited yet temperate conduct against those outlawed pests of society. I hope your Lordship will agree with me that his troubles, crosses and great losses on those occasions merit your Excellency's good opinion and the notice of his Majesty. I had applied to your Lordship formerly to confer an honour upon him. My applications to your Excellency have not been of a pecuniary or mercenary nature, attended with no expense to Government but as rewards to merit and the well-wishers to administration. His paternal ancestry have had many orders of chivalry both among the Morleys and Saunders and enobled maternally. He has made the Tour of Europe as extensively and with as much reputation as any young gentleman ever did, as our Ambassadors in Italy and France can testify, and, if

* Philip Yonke (or Young), Bishop of Norwich, 1761-1783.

not thus detained, he had e'er now in all probability have been allied to a young lady of most amiable accomplishments, ample fortune, and very good connections as most in Great Britain. She is still unmarried, and I wish to repay her constancy by procuring what both so well merit, a Peerage. I have therefore to request that among such Commoners as your Excellency may think fit hereafter to recommend to his Majesty to be so distinguished that my nephew Morley Saunders, of Saunders Grove, in the County of Wicklow, may be one by the stile and title of Baron Roscommon.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1779, Feb. 15. Dublin Castle.—Many thanks for the good news contained in your Lordship's Letter of the 10th.

The numbers of the associated companys greatly exceed my expectation, they have grown up insensibly, but none of the servants of the Crown seem to think them dangerous.

Upon the rumor of the Provincial Regiments many Gentlemen daily offer to raise corps to form them, but I doubt they would not chose foreign service. Most of those gentlemen belong to the companys above mentioned.

I keep the packet waiting just in three words to repeat, that any plan his Majesty adopts for the raising men shall be pushd to the utmost.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1779, Feb. 15. Dublin Castle.—(The bearer of these letters is from the African coast, sent by Mr. Lacy, who solicits some advance for him in consequence of the deaths in that country. He has experienced many hardships.) I am distrest beyond measure for Church preferment, which must at present plead my excuse to Lord Carlow.

LORD CHANCELLOR (LIFFORD) to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, Thursday 18. Chancery Chamber.—The Chancellor presents his best respects to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant. Has been much out of order for some days, and tho' he sat all day yesterday and to-day in the Court of Chancery, he is not well enough to dine at a full table and in company to-day, and hopes that his Excellency will permit him to beg his Excellency's permission to eat a chicken at home. Begs leave to mention to him a matter that he should have mentioned if he had seen his Excellency before dinner, viz:—There was presented to him for the Great Seal the grant of the Deanery of Cork and the presentations to two livings to Mr. Erskine. One of the livings is the present of the Crown *in pleno jure*, the other is the gift of the Crown as vacant by the advancement of the last incumbent to the Bishoprick of Killaloe. I

inquired whether Mr. Erskine had compleatly got rid of his English preferments, but could receive no answer or satisfaction. The Chancellor therefore thought fit to suspend putting the Great Seal to these instruments, for that by a Statute of this Kingdom of the 17th and 18th C. II., the Deanery and the livings would be vacant in case Mr. Erskine at the time had spiritual preferment in England. This happened in the case of the present Bishop of Kilmore* who had not surrendered his livings in England at the time his patent for the Bishoprick passed the Seal, and he was obliged afterwards to have a new patent when he had his English preferment. In the present case there is something more, for this Act says that upon a presentation becoming so void the true and real patron may present, as if the person so presented having at the time English preferment had resign'd or had dyed.

Now possibly under this part of the Statute your Excellency might lose the presentation and the patron possibly would say the Crown's turn, by making the incumbent a Bishop, has been served by the presentation of Mr. E. which is become void, and I am now to present as if the person presented by the Crown had resigned or had dyed.

The Chancellor was willing to communicate this to his Excellency, and therefore troubles him with this long scrawl.

J. M. HEYWOOD to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, Feb. 27. Grosvenor Street.—As Sir Francis Drake is going to write to your Lordship on the subjects of the fishery in the River Tavy and his dispute with Mr. Short, I trouble you with a few lines just to say what passed between the latter and myself the last time I saw him, which may serve to show you his sentiments, may point out to you in what manner to act and prevent any misrepresentation of the facts. Last spring Mr. Short enter'd into an association with several of the lowest people of the Parish of Beer who were so indefatigable in this lucrative pursuit that they not only alarm'd Sir Francis Drake by prejudicing his fishery, but by employing a number of people took very unfair advantages over my tenant, who had agreed with them for the sake of peace and quietness to fish alternately, viz., three days in the week each. In the autumn I spoke to Mr. Short on the subject, in the hopes of settling the matter so as to prevent all disputes and asked him if Sir Francis had not forbid his fishing, and if he fished in your Lordship's right or as Rector of Beer. His answer I confess astonished me. He said "*that you had no exclusive right*, that it did not signify by what rights he fished, it was by the same right which his predecessors had exercised." These words he more than once repeated. It is of little consequence to me whether the rights of fishery on your side the river is reserved in your Lordship's family or granted

* Dr. George Lewis Jones.

by lease to Sir Francis; but was I even less interested than I am in this business, I cannot refrain from informing you of anything which may materially concern your property in that neighbourhood. . . .

“QUAKER TREFFRY to PARSON SHORT.”

2d day, morning. Beer.—Roger Treffry’s respects to his friend Short, and as he hath been informed by John Harris that he is ordered to level a heap of earth on the green, that I have cast up on my right, I think it necessary to say it hath been a matter of surprise that the Earl of Bucks. or any person under him should give away them pollard trees which grew on that part of the green, but as they were given to the poor and done perhaps thro’ inadvertency I do not much regard it; but I claim both soil and trees from the Parish Steble to the Water as an *appurtenance* belonging to my estate and as much my right as either field thereon which I can prove without a doubt.

If thou hast any desire to have it removed to *please thy eye*, as soon as I have leisure I intend to do it, but must beg no other person may meddle with it.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, March 4. London.—I know not how to express my sense of your Excellency’s kindness to me. The matter of what is in agitation is trifling, but the manner of your granting my request is infinitely pleasing and obliging to me. The contents of Mr. Meredyth’s letter adds if possible to this. I pray your Excellency to let Mr. John Marshall be appointed to the hearth money collection of Hillsborough, and I will be answerable for his conduct. He will give ample and indisputable security, and is a very proper person in every respect, and will answer all my wishes.

The latter part of your Excellency’s letter, in which you mention in the most obliging manner my entering again into public business, is founded I imagine only upon reports, for I have heard nothing otherwise about it. I am sorry to tell you that matters hobble on but unpleasantly, and yet nothing is more to be feared than the breaking up of the present Administration, for there is not anything half so good to replace it. I therefore do most heartily wish its continuance. Poor Lord Suffolk is gone extremely ill to Bath, most people think not to return. Should this be the case he will be a very great loss, but I think his youth gives him a chance of recovery. Various conjectures have been thrown out of a successor, your Excellency, Lord Rochford, Lord Sandwich and myself have been mentioned, but I believe without any foundation. I have made my letter a little longer than usual because Barrington, who I know sends your Excellency all the news, is gone out of town.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, March 10. Jermyn Street.—I return your Excellency many thanks for the honour of yours of the third instant, but should not have troubled you with a letter which can give your Excellency no entertainment had it not been for the death of Captain Graham, of the Athol Highlanders, who died at Naples, whither he went for the recovery of his health on the 31st of January last. The Duke of Athol and Colonel Murray have been with me to desire I would recommend to your Excellency Captain Lieutenant James Menzies for the Company; the eldest Lieutenant, Charles Murray, for the Captain-Lieutenancy; the eldest Ensign, John Mackay, to be Lieutenant; and Volunteer Thomas McPhail to be Ensign. The peculiar circumstances of that regiment, especially with respect to the language spoke in it, induces me to hope that your Excy. will comply with the requests of the Duke of Athol and Col. Murray.

Mr. Hobart, knowing I was to have the honour to write to your Excellency, has desired me to mention that to-night on a motion of Lord Newhaven's (after a division of 47 to 42) leave is given to bring in a bill for permitting the importation of sugar into Ireland. I need not mention that Mr. Hobart was in the majority. I was not in the division; Mr. Stuart McKensie and I being both engaged to dinner, with Lord Newhaven's leave, went off together.

I most sincerely condole with your Excy. on the loss of our friend, poor Lord Suffolk, though his death was fortunate for him, as he was in a miserable way. Two or three people (Lord Carlisle, Lord Hillsborough, Lord Stormount and Lord Rochford) are talked of to be his successor, but nothing is yet fixed. The Duke of Beaufort had an audience to-day, and as is believed asked for the Garter. I never saw Lady Buckingham look better.

P.S. My stay here must be some days longer than I proposed, as a question or two of some importance will come on in the House of Commons.*

COUNTESS OF KILDARE to THE SAME.

1779, March 25.—Your reasons for disencumbering this poor Nation of adding or renewing pensions I must applaud, tho' unsuccessful in my application in regard of my niece Lady Burdett's children, and her small pension the chief support of them, and dyeing with her. They and their father have lived since I may say upon charity, by donations of money from their relations both of Sir William Burdett and hers; yet their distress is such as Sir William is under the necessity of disposing of some moveables to provide food for the family as alsoe clothing to prevent starving with hunger and cold. I beg pardon for troubling your Excellencie with these particulars of their misery, but in hopes to move your pitty to these wretched infants, and from

* Sir John Irwine was M.P. for E. Grinstead

your benevolence grant their father some small employ that might prevent them all from perishing. I don't mean a place of trust of money ; Board of Works or any not unbecoming a gentleman to execute. If Lady Buckingham was here I shou'd hope for her suporting this request by her influence with your Excellencie, but as I can have no prospect of that protection, I venture, and flatter myself you will excuse this, which nothing but the daily scenes of indigence I am, and have long been, too well acquainted with, cou'd have prevail'd with me to trouble your Excellencie with the deplorable case, and from whose compassionat tender feelings I depend that I have not laid it before you in vain.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1779, March 31. Dublin Castle.—The intelligence of our most brilliant successes as well in the East as in the West Indies has give me a long inexperienced flow of spirits. But Lord Suffolk's death both in a publick and in a private light is a thorn in my pillow which will not easily be removed.

The mode in which the measures favourable to Ireland have been press'd in Parliament has been equally injudicious and improper ; till Lord North had expressly signifyd that nothing should be done, the specifick propositions ought to have been submitted to him. I cannot but be persuaded of its being unnecessary to declare that Lord Newhaven's taking such a lead has neither been directly or indirectly encouraged by me. Your Lordship well knows that my wish has been uniformly that English Government should form their determination upon the state which it was my duty fairly and fully to exhibit. The relieving Ireland from the expense of the troops serving abroad is a concession of the first magnitude and of the most immediate operation, a lottery *sub modo* will also mitigate the usurious contracts, without which otherwise our money could not be obtain'd, the separation of the Post Office, if England sets the example of abolishing the privilege of franking, may become a material article of revenue, and if the indulgence of exporting cottons and linnens mix'd was added to these, all complainings and additional requisitions may be deemed most unreasonable.

A most painfull reflection too frequently occurs to me that my Administration should exist at a period when of all others England was the most oppressed with difficultys, which this country instead of relieving was necessarily oblig'd to increase. The most my best endeavors can expect is a mitigation of general censure and that the very few candid will give me credit for difficultys which they have not leisure to investigate. You will deem me, however, the vainest of men for declaring that in my own deliberate, let me hope, dispassionate judgment, events have not hitherto led me to wish to have held a different line of conduct. When the days of tranquillity return you shall indulge me in expatiating a little upon that subject.

As some of my letters to Sir H. Clinton have miscarry'd you will forgive my requesting that directions may be given for transmitting the inclosed.

Lady Buckingham expresses her being particularly happy in Lady Crosby's society.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, April 26. Hanover Square.—I have been so furiously attacked by a cold and sore throat that I have not been able to hold my head down long enough to write a letter for these ten days. This has prevented my paying my duty to your Excellency, and returning you my thanks for my Hillsborough hearthmoney collection, which is, I presume, by this time in possession of Mr. John Marshall.

You will laugh, and yet I am sure be sorry to hear that our friend Barrington has got a smart fit of the gout. I fancy he swears a little, but our respective complaints keep us asunder. Your Excellency will expect to hear from *me* who is to be Secretary of State. And perhaps you will be surprized when I assure you I know nothing of the matter. I have put my mark under (*me*) because for ten or twelve days past everybody seemed to agree it would be offered to me. My private opinion and indeed hope has been, and still is, that it will not come to me. I say my hope, because I think I should be weak enough to accept it, tho' indubitably much happier as I am, '*Armis Herculis ad Postem fixis,*' when I quitted the Colonies. So much for me and Secretary of State. I do assure you my dear Lord, I have most cordially and actively obeyed your Excellency, in stating the deplorable condition of poor Ireland, and soliciting relief. The payment of the troops is all that could be got. My patience is severely tried by those two foolish Bills, the Tobacco and the Stamp. The first is an insult to the misery of that country, the other an Irish Relief indeed! By way of support, a Bounty totally to destroy the small remains of sailcloth and the cordage manufactures. All this I represented to our friend, Nugent, but your Excellency knows he abounds considerably more in wit and obstinacy than in prudence and judgment. I shall not be surprized if these two *encouragements* should produce a good deal of clamour on your side. Upon the motion made by Lord Bristol the other day to remove Lord Sandwich, Lord Lyttleton and Lord Pembroke voted with the minority, and the first made a furious anti-ministerial speech. I am told Lord Stormount (*sic*) spoke very well indeed; this is the second time he has distinguished himself this sessions.

We are under apprehensions about the Ramillies 74 Gun Ship of War, and news from the West Indies is impatiently expected. I have this instant got a note from Barrington to tell me he has the gout in the other foot. What a rich fellow he will be. I have been so long confined that I do not know whether Lady Buckingham is with you; if she is I beg your Excellency will present my most respectfull compliments to her.

LORD CHANCELLOR (LIFFORD) to MR. WAITE.*

1779, May.—Illness will prevent me from attending his Excellency's levée.

I don't wonder that the people of England grow serious about the foolish and mad associations here. I am sure they make me very uneasy, as I am sure that they must if they have any effect work to the prejudice of this country, especially if seriously taken up on the other side of the water.

LORD BARRINGTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, May 17. Cavendish Square.—In your letter of the 7th instant you bid me account for Mr. Rigby's conduct in the House of Commons and for the disagreements which appear in Parliament among the Ministers now in office, etc. I am ever desirous, my dear friend, to assist your wishes; but in truth I know nothing but what *meets the eye* in the political world. No wonder, however, that an Administration which has no system, no steadiness and little concert should appear sometimes to differ. I am apt to believe the Bloomsbury's are in no plot, and have no object but to keep what they possess. I am told Lord North and Lord George Germain managed the debate to which you allude so unfortunately, that even their warmest and best friends supported them with great reluctance, and openly blamed their conduct. Happily for the Ministry the opposition is so universally detested and feared, that they find a support in the nation to which they are not entitled but from *comparison*.

I am happy to read in one of your letters that your subjects in Ireland are growing more moderate. I really cannot blame their associations. The English nation and its Parliament wish to assist the Irish trade, both from policy and gratitude; but are prevented by the clamours raised by local manufactories. Are such monopolists entitled to any favour from a nation which they oppress? I hope next Session of Parliament the right thing will be done in spite of clamour. Lord Nugent has been very absurd, and has carry'd thro' the Houses two Bills which can neither benefit or quiet the country where he is a candidate for popularity.

There are some ugly rumours about our fleet in the West Indies, but void of all foundation.

Sir James Wallace with a 50 gunship and two small ships of war follow'd to Cancalle Bay the sea-force which attack'd Jersey. He silenced a battery on shore, took a fine frigate of 34 guns, destroy'd two other frigates and a sloop, in short, as I am told, everything which he found there; and this in spite of the French artillery and many thousand troops under arms who were near spectators.

* Probably Thomas Waite, appointed a Privy Councillor in Ireland, 1777.

The SPANISH AMBASSADOR (M. LE MARQUIS D'ALMODOVAR)
to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, May 29. Londres.—Taking the liberty of sending him some specimens of Spanish wine which are much appreciated here, and acknowledging with gratitude “*deux pièces d’Irlande*” sent him by the Viceroy.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

1779, June 28. Dublin Castle.—Your Irish friends flatter themselves that the report of your indisposition is not founded.

Your Lordship must know of the Order, receiv’d here yesterday, to encamp the Army immediately, and you cannot be a stranger to the inability of our Treasury to answer the consequential expence. The notification of His Majesty’s pleasure to augment the staff came at the same time, and I fear the very material additional charge which in the course of a twelvemonth has been introduc’d under that head, will occasion great dissatisfaction, and very unpleasing Parliamentary animadversion, especially as we have only two regiments of infantry more than we had under the old staff (July the 1st). I was interrupted here and have not had leisure to continue till now when I am to express my particular thanks for two letters since receiv’d, the latter of which gave me as much pleasure in reading as your Lordship seems to have experienc’d from the circumstance upon which it treats. The military gentlemen are tearing me to pieces for the money which they know I have not, and the appearance of their embracing too many ideas at once concerns me. A large sum ought to be remitted from England, or no defence can be made. Proposals for raising corps crowd in upon me from every side, which, very, very few instances excepted, are dictated by idea’s of military rank, county influence, or emolument. The same publick spirit in no degree prevails in this kingdom, which so generally pervades England, that of contributing uncompelled to the exigencys of the State. Yet candor should allow that this possibly may proceed from a circumstance which influences disagreeably in many instances, that excess of expense which, in Ireland, distresses every order of men. This, however, cannot apply to the great absentee proprietors who, I understand, are alarmed at a rumour of my having submitted to the Cabinet an idea of taxing them. Their not offering at this moment in some shape or other to assist a country where they possess such valuable stake’s is certainly impolitick. I have nothing material to mention which you will not see in my official dispatches, except that since my last to Ld. Weymouth, fresh assurances have been given by several principal Roman Catholicks of their attachment to His Majesty and their cordial disposition, if call’d upon, actively to assist him. Your Lordship’s account of His Majesty’s late deportment in the Cabinet was most gratefull to me, tho’ the communications with which he has occasionally honor’d me, left me no doubt of the extent of his ability’s.

This letter, which was begun on the 28th of June, is concluded the 4th of July, you will conceive that the interruptions have been occasion'd by business and that, possibly, the business was not of a most agreeable cast.

JOHN TOMLINSON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, July 9. Cley.—(Concerning an offer made to Mr. Weg for the purchase of his estate for £900.) He is not inclin'd to take less than £1,000 for it, tho' I have represented the increased difference between money and land since the offer was made. However his distresses are not less than they were, and Mr. Copeman has promis'd to continue the mortgage for a larger period (upon his own account, I understand from Mr. Gay, if inconvenient to your Lordship). (Reports the death of a Major Lacy.)

The part Spain has taken has made us not only extremely anxious for the safety of your Lordship's Kingdom of Ireland, but even *pro Aris et Focis* in Norfolk, where you may possibly be surpris'd to hear of no small apprehensions of an invasion from a privateer's crew at least, and tho' Parliament seems averse to increasing the militia by ballot, yet I verily believe some volunteer corps will be rais'd at the Assizes.

While the Bill was depending Mr. Coke went over to Lord Orford at the Camp at Alborough in Suffolk to offer his service, if an additional Battalion was rais'd, or if not, to ask permission to raise some few companies among his friends; and mentioned Sir E. Astley's and Sir Harbord's intentions of serving, but yet steer'd clear of offering to serve under his Lordship's immediate command, as at least he may be said to be military mad, so much so that Mr. Coke is extremely fearfull that his brother, and Mr. Bulwer, that his son, may be brought into some danger or disagreeable situation by his Lordship's attacking the Smuglers, against whom he vows vengeance for their resistance last year. As a proof of his Lordship's not being in his sober senses he wants to promote Capt. Alderman Gobbet to the Majority in case it should be vacant either by Col. Barker's being broke by an intended Court Martial, or by Mr. Windham's resignation on account of health, which, however, is so far re-establish'd as to be thought quite out of danger, tho' he cannot join the corps this summer.

Lord de Ferrers also wants to have the command of a Battalion or indeed any less body distinct from Lord Orford's commands.

I came down early this summer to fix my sisters at Yarmouth and on my farming matters, by which means I was at the Norwich Guild. Sir Harbord made his entry into the country that day, but did not appear to be received with great applause by the court, and will be less so by the vulgar on account of the inclosure of *free* Mousehold Heath, which is now depending, and at a meeting on which account Mr. Lens was wounded by a brick bat and others discomfited, which has produc'd certain warrants and actions that will not much increase his popularity; and it is

the general opinion that if he represents Norwich again it must be by Mr. Bacon's good offices and the desire of preserving the peace of the city. There is also an opinion that Bacon will join young Ives, but that I can scarce think will be the case. There are certain Gregs* of the name of Day very strenuous for Mr. Hobart's offering himself, but in these times unanimity is much to be wish'd for. Exclusive of foreign enemies we are much distress'd here and thro' England in general by the poverty of our farmers and what they call the low price of things. The fact is I cannot let my farm now in hand to its value and therefore seem likely to hold it another year, and unfortunately my great farm comes out of lease at Mich^s. 1780, for which I have not yet been bid near its value, so that event which I have been longing for with so much ardor may now happen too soon.

Our farmers cannot sell any sheep at the fairs, and unless the late fine rains ensure a good turnip crop, I do not know how they can keep them, for the drought has been so great in these parts that they lately ask'd £5 for a waggon load of new hay. At the same time that I feel and lament these unfortunate circumstances, yet the mentioning them may be some consolation to those under your Lordship's Government that know only their own grievances, which seem to spread too rapidly over the whole empire.

The Assizes on the 26th will certainly produce some resolutions about increasing the Militia or forming companies in the different districts. I shall then do myself the honour of communicating them.

CHARLES JENKINSON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

(*Private.*)

1779, July 17. London.—Has this day spoken to Lord Hertford desiring that no step may be taken to bring forward a measure which you say in the present moment would lay you under difficulties.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, Aug. 7. Head Quarters, Ardfinnan Camp.—I had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter whilst I was on the road to Corke. Ever since, I have been in such constant motion, and so taken up with business that I have not been able to return your Excy. my humble thanks for it.

With all submission to your Excy., give me leave to say, that if Colonel Sandford, or whoever your Excy. destined for the place of Inspector of recruits, meant to make it a sinecure your Excy. would do perfectly right to suppress that employment, but as such an officer is at this time more necessary than ever, I sincerely hope your Excy. will reconsider that matter; for now that we expect the gentlemen of the country will raise men for us, it will be very proper those men should be inspected, and at

* See Mr. Harbord to the Earl of Bucks., p. 242, March 28, 1761.

this time no General or field officer can be spared to attend such a duty. My intention therefore was to propose to your Excy. the establishing the Inspector at some particular place, where he should examine all the recruits, somewhere between this and Corke, by which he might see the recruits for the army near that city as well as this encamped here. I therefore beseech your Excy. to once more think of this affair.

With respect to the post of Constable of Carrickfergus I have less to say; I only take the liberty to observe that though the late Colonel Browne was the first who enjoyed that place, and therefore it may be said to be created for him, yet it was not intended the place should be put an end to with his life; for if your Excy. will please to consider there is not a Prince in Europe who has so few favours of that nature to give away to old and deserving officers as the King our Master has, and which he has often regretted, which I confess makes me wish that your Excy. would not suppress that post.

I will not take up more of your Excy.'s time at present than to tell you that we have a great many sick in this Camp, which makes me earnest to have some better way of taking care of them than we at present have, which can only be done by establishing a general hospital for that purpose.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1779, Aug. 15. Ardfinnan Camp.—I had the honour this day to receive your Excellency's letter of the 13th. If the united fleets are entering the channel I take for granted we shall soon hear of an action, and that the consequence of it will decide whether we shall or shall not be invaded.

His Majesty having determined as to the late Col. Browne's employments, it is unnecessary to say any thing on that subject. I lament very much that such a number of recruiting parties are sent over to this country, when we have so great occasion for men to defend ourselves; perhaps if your Excy. would be pleased to represent this matter to his Majesty it might be put a stop to, or at least restrained in some degree, or they might send us over some recruits from thence, which method I should like best of all. I can assure your Excy. the gentlemen of the country with whom I have conversed complain very bitterly of England for this very measure of recruiting their troops in this Kingdom; say they are ill-treated and neglected, and it is their opinion that England wishes to see Ireland invaded, in the hope it would prevent an invasion of England.

I rejoyce that the augmentation of the artillery is consented to. There is a great want of officers in that corps, we have not near sufficient for the common duty.

I propose leaving this, to pay my respects to your Excy., about this day se-night, unless you are pleased to order me sooner. I shall make Col. Luttrell very happy by letting him know your Excy.'s approbation.

Give me leave to return you my best thanks for the honour of your letter of the 10th. By that it does not appear (from Governor Johnston's intelligence) as if all we read and hear of embarking troops on the French coast was true. I am very thankful to your Excy. for the kind concern you are pleased to express about my health. I am pretty well of the disorder in my stomach, but have got a most severe cold.

I proposed sending this letter by post, but have this moment received an application from Maj^r Ross of the 81st Regt. to lay before your Excy. a proposal for raising 700 Highlanders, which proposal (according to the present mode though it is not to relate to Ireland) is to go through your Excy. to be transmitted to be laid before the King. He flatters himself H.M. will accept his proposal, and desires leave to go to London for a few days, which, he being a deserving officer, I hope your Excy. will please to permit him to do.

The EARL OF SHANNON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
(Lord Lieutenant).

1779, Sept. 16. Castle Martyr.—I am sorry to inform your Excellency that the plan for reducing the arm'd societies in this country into a legal and regular form has not yet met with the success which I hoped for, or which it deserved. It was so model'd by Col. Luttrell as in my opinion not only to obviate all objection, but to make it in every light desirable. An alarm, however, respecting it had been rapidly and successfully spread the moment it transpired that such a scheme was in agitation, and men's minds were so strongly prepossessed against the measure that it was received with every symptom of jealousy and distrust, and seem'd to be condemn'd by almost all, before it had been well explained to any.

I trust, however, that gentlemen's suspicions may be yet removed, and they may yet be convinced, that nothing is meant but to promote the general good, and that the only object of the scheme is that their own protection, and that of the kingdom should go hand in hand. Your Excellency may be satisfied that I shall take every opportunity, where it can be done with effect, of recommending and promoting in this, as I flatter myself I have been instrumental in doing in a neighbouring county, a scheme which in my conscience I think at this critical time so necessary, and so much for the honor and advantage of the kingdom.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

1779, Sept. 16. Dublin Castle.—It may be necessary to observe to your Lordship that the draft of the Lord Lieutenant's Speech,* which is conveyed to Lord Weymouth by this

* See for the form in which it was finally delivered the 12th October, the Annual Register for 1779, p. 352.

messenger, is not precisely such, as, but from the particular circumstances of the time, I should have wish'd to have submitted.

Many alterations have been made by the several gentlemen consulted, which are acquiesc'd in from the consideration that the loss of a question upon the Address would not only influence upon the whole conduct of the Sessions but might branch out into numberless disagreeable political consequences in other respects. All my friends assure me that any attempt to prevent the Parliament's entering into the commercial subject would be equally injudicious and unavailing.

In a juncture like the present your discernment will see the propriety of my requesting the assistance and instructions of his Majesty's English servants. (*Draft.*)

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1779, October 19. Dublin Castle.—Tho' I cannot risque any sanguine assertions, yet there is a degree of satisfaction in observing that discreet men seem terribly alarmed and wish for for their own sakes to prevent that ruin and confusion which seems to threaten their country. I hope to be able to send an official letter to-morrow to Lord North with a state of my future prospect, which, however tho' time presses, cannot be wrote without great deliberation. (*Draft.*)

THE SAME to THE SAME.

(*Private.*)

1779, October 24.—Last night's post brought the London Gazette in which the Lord Lieutenant's Speech is inserted. This is the only intelligence which hitherto has reached me of my very disagreeable, and, indeed, alarming dispatches having been receiv'd. Suspence is a most unpleasing circumstance to an anxious mind, but in this instance is very sufficiently accounted for by the peculiar difficulty which must attend the framing any determination upon them. No man who has the least glimmering of information will presume to advance that the King can pledge himself for the conduct of Parliament, and yet there prevails a degree of universal impatience for his answer as if the wording of it was finaly to decide upon the hopes of this Kingdom.

The Duke of Leinster and Mr. Conolly* tho' at first disinclin'd to the armed societys at least so far as not to engage in them are now become their great promoters. In the course of the summer upon its being rumor'd that his Majesty might possibly be induc'd to grant commissions to the officers, they both express'd a desire to be honor'd with those of Colonel. Mr. Conolly went

* The Rt. Hon. Thomas Conolly was M.P. for Londonderry County and a Privy Councillor for Ireland.

into the North, from whence he was to transmit me a list of gentlemen desirous of having inferior commissions, and the Duke said he would speak to his friends upon the same line. From that time his Grace has been totally silent with respect to the measure, and Mr. Conolly wrote me a letter from the North declining the idea. During his residence there he engag'd in those societys and contributed very much to give them some systematical military regulations.

I have been assur'd that in different parts of Ireland several have taken the oaths and that more are inclin'd to it, but also that there are some companies whose principles are determindly republican.

It concerns me to hear from every quarter that more corps are forming, as whatever may be their professions and avow'd principles they are in general so independent of their ostensible leaders, that tho' sober people reluctantly speak out, they are in fact very uneasy respecting the line of conduct which the spirit of the moment may induce them to adopt.

One very serious regulation is introducing in some of them, that of appointing their officers by rotation. (*Draft.*)

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1779, November 18.—I should rather judge that your Lordship's information with respect to the Prime Serjeant's* having assign'd my want of plan as a reason for his retreat was not strictly founded. But if he drop'd any expression of that tendency, it must have alluded to England's not holding out any specifick plan of commercial concessions, &c. He hinted his intention of retiring about the 20th July, just at the moment of Sir R. Heron's return, previous to which no system for the opening of the sessions could have been fix'd, and with respect to that system the Prime Serjeant would have been with reason disgusted if he had not been principally concern'd in the digesting of it. He had long been alarm'd at the difficultys with which Government was surrounded, and did not feel his resolution equal to the resisting popular clamour and Parliamentary abuse. I do not recollect the mentioning to your Lordship his having advis'd me so long as May last to solicit my recall. Some of the Irish Gentlemen, who profess attachment to Government either are or affect to be frightened at the general distraction and mutinous disposition of the times, and are politically inclin'd to justify their unsteadiness at my expence, that when publick tranquillity is restor'd they may preserve a claim of basking in the sunshine of a new Government.

The Attorney General† and Mr. Foster‡ remain firm, the Provost, with whom they cannot be prevail'd upon frankly to

* Rt. Hon. Walter Hussy Burgh, M.P. for University of Dublin.

† John Scott, Attorney General for Ireland since 1777, and Privy Councillor, afterwards Ld. Clonmell, and Chief Justice.

‡ John Foster, M.P. for Louth and made a Privy Councillor in this year. (See 14th Report, Hist. MSS. p. 160.)

communicate is disgusted, and seems to be angling for popularity. Three most important dispatches remain unnotic'd, and a letter this morning receiv'd, mentions that Lord North and Mr. Robinson were both in the country upon the 13th. If within two days no instructions are sent me, it will become necessary to form some decision with the best advice I can obtain to prevent a confusion which otherwise may become irremediable. The Attorney General has a guard still at his house, but every means is taken to give the most immediate check to any disturbance. In justice to Mr. Beresford and several others, their disposition to co-operate with the measures of Government should be notic'd, but I fear the number is most inconsiderable compared with those who avow an intention of espousing the measure of a Short Money Bill. (*Draft.*)

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1780, Jan^{ry} 10.—During my three years Irish residence, in the number of letters with which your indulgence has favord me, I never trac'd one line which, to my convietion, was not dictated by friendship. Before the receipt of your last, I had in a most secret dispatch stated to Lord North my sentiments with respect to what measures might be most expedient for securing the immediate objects of Government. At a crisis when not only a majority but something bordering upon unanimity in Parliament is called for to overawe turbulent spirits without doors, I could not risque sending a plan to be generally communicated to his Majesty's servants. It is my duty at this instant to muzzle if practicable the illhumor of every individual.

There are of those here and from hence holding a different language who are not totaly unattended to in England. Could I have two hours deliberate conversation with your Lordship and Lord North, I would undertake to convince you of the indiscretion of their ideas and the interested motives which dictate them. When this sessions is expir'd, which I am of opinion may end happily, and the day comes when a more peaceable situation will allow leisure to those in whose hands his Majesty's Government may be trusted to form an Administration upon an extensive plan, business may be conducted with more certainty, yet increasing as the claims of individuals are upon Government, I scarcely can conceive how it will be possible to secure a decided majority by that best tie, their own emolument.

If assurances are to be depended upon the business of Government will be carryd through, and any peevish questions parryd by respectable numbers; as however it is not possible for me to form a conclusive judgment, my mind does not know a moment's tranquillity.

You scarcely can conceive the various torments which I experience from jealousy, incredulity, confidence abus'd, distrust, and inconsistency, the divisions and sub-divisions of connection; a gentleman will act in concert with one man as to a particular

object, but oppose him and co-operate with his adversary in another. Two or three letters from England have mention'd an intention to let our Test Bill pass. I know not the circumstance which would so much contribute to quiet the spirit of the most dangerous body in this Kingdom as that measure's being fairly understood. You will see from authentic minutes of speeches in Parliament deliver'd when the resolutions were voted, that many of the respectable country gentlemen have held very temperate language. You cannot but as much approve of the sentiments of Mr. H. Burgh upon that occasion as you may justly have arraigned them upon others. Lord Macartney has just left me, he returns in two days to England where he will deliver his ideas respecting the present state of this Kingdom. (*Draft.*)

WELBORE ELLIS* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, January 15.—(Informing him of the death of Hans Stanley.†) I know how deeply this event will affect you, as I well know the sincere friendship which subsisted between you, Lord Cadogan, Mr. d'Oyly, and myself. Yesterday we opened his Will, wherein we found, that he has appointed your Lordship, Mr. Brathwaite, and an attorney of Southampton, Trustees.

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I beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on the happy effects of the late measures in Ireland. I am not, however, I must confess, without some fears, while I observe such heavy clouds on the horizon which portend a storm. I persuade myself, that your Excellency is too experienced a State pilot to be lulled into security by the present fallacious appearance.

LORD CADOGAN to THE SAME.

1780, Jan^y. 15. Whitehall.—It is a most painfull task to disturb your present happiness with an account of one of the most shocking events in private life that ever happened. Our poor friend Stanley has follow'd his father's example and is no more. I thought it doubly my duty to write to your Lordship not only as one of his most intimate friends, but as I find your name as one of his trustees for carrying his will into execution. He has left everything to his sisters for their lives and after both their deaths he has given his moiety of our joint Chelsea property to me; his moiety of his Welch estate to Mr. Rice, who stood in the same predicament with him there (but being dead is, I conclude, a lapse legacy) and has given Sloane all his Hampshire and other properties, who is to take the name and arms of Stanley when the contingency takes place. He has left some legacies and among them £200 to your Lordship, and has provided for a natural son of his now at sea. His personal estate

* Welbore Ellis, M.P. for Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, and a Privy Councillor, was brother-in-law to Hans Stanley.

† The Rt. Hon^{ble}. Hans Stanley, Cofferer of the Household, Governor of the Isle of Wight and M.P. for Southampton, etc.

will about answer the demands upon it but rather deficient for that purpose. There are no Executors so that Mrs. Ellis and Mrs. D'Oyly must take out administration.

I really, my dear Lord, have not yet recover'd myself enough to add much more except that all parties seem satisfied with the distribution of his affairs. His loss you will deplore as much as any of us. He died at Althorp and left me at Caversham but a few days ago in the greatest appearance of health and tranquillity of mind I ever saw.

LORD MACARTNEY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, January 21. Charles Street, Berkeley Square.—As far as I can observe, it appears to me that the Administration here expect an absolute certainty of your Excellency's being able to finish the Session with honour and success. They are fully persuaded, I believe, that you will do every thing that you possibly can for that purpose, but I don't think they will be satisfied, if after all that has been done for Ireland, there should now seem the smallest chance of any defeat or miscarriage in your Parliament. As your Excellency did me the honor of talking to me very confidentially I shou'd ill repay your goodness, if I did not give you my sincere opinion in return. If you venture to meet the Parliament and any constitutional question should be carried against you, they will never forgive you for risking it, they will consider it as a dissolution of Government and every mischief and ill consequence that follow from it will be laid at your Excellency's door. Therefore, my dear Lord, put nothing to the hazard. Get a majority to pledge themselves to you and to one another, or don't meet them. You have been deceived once already, and you will not be excused, if deceived a second time. I must entreat you to pardon me for taking this liberty, it can proceed from no possible motive but my regard for your Excellency and my wishes for your ease and reputation. I have not had the good fortune of finding Lord George Germain at home altho' I called twice at his door. I have seen Lord North and Lord Hillsborough but once, being obliged to confine myself for these three days past with a severe cold and sore throat. Lord N. and Lord H. told me that they had fully answered the letters which you mentioned to me. Should your Excellency have any commands for me I shall be happy to execute them to the best of my power.

WELBORE ELLIS to THE SAME.

1780, Jany. 27.—(Referring further to the death and testamentary dispositions of Hans Stanley.)

I beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on the very important success of Sir G. Rodney by the capture made of the Spanish sixty-four gun ship, five frigates and nine other transports loaded with victual and naval stores. Three of them are as I understand arrived at Plymouth, the rest are said to have

been left off the Lizard, but the wind blowing still fresh at last they have not been able to come up the Channel. Sir George has taken the Spanish man-of-war and some of the victuallers with him ; those with naval stores are the ships which are expected.

[COLONEL the HON^{BLE}.] WILLIAM GORDON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, Jan^{ry} 29. London.—I had the honor to receive your Lordship's most obliging letters, and can assure you that in whatever rank I may return to Ireland, it shall be my constant study to do everything in my power to forward his Majesty's service. It makes me extremely happy to hear the 81st do their duty in such a manner as to deserve your approbation. Good news is expected soon from Sir Henry Clinton, he is gone with a large body of troops to Charlestown, and General Leslie with another corps is gone to James's River, so that if Lord Cornwallis can keep Washington at bay, we have reason to expect success. It is not certain that Pensacola is taken. As I know much of your Lordship's time must be at present taken up with business of importance, I beg you would not think of giving yourself the trouble of answering my letter, I beg to present my respects to Lady Buckingham. In the name of my Highlanders, I return her Ladyship a thousand thanks for the favourable opinion she is pleased to have of them.

HANS SLOANE^{*} to THE SAME.

1780, March 12. London.—I am satisfied no one of Mr. Stanley's friends has felt more deeply the great loss we have all had in his decease, than your Lordship. It has broke in upon that centre of union in Privy Garden, which having been so long a sure place of frequent meetings of mutual friends, makes his loss irreparable to us all. Such a multitude of affairs arising from this misfortune has fallen to my lot to attend and arrange, that knowing at the same time the alarming intricacy of all political matters on your side the water, made me postpone breaking in one moment on your time so fully engaged as it has lately been. Happy I am, as one of your Irish subjects, to flatter myself, that I begin now to see some hope of a calm, which I was afraid was so endangered in Ireland, as to threaten more dreadful consequences to the State than any foreign foe. Your Lordship's wise and prudent administration during this critical period, has given some warm Irish Patriots time to reflect, that it were better to rest satisfied with the advantages already secured to their commerce, than pursue other points, which might draw on great objections in future. It is time for Ireland to repose from all her own internal commotions, and look at this country, where a plan originally and undoubtedly commencing on ideas of a job for the General Election, may

* M.P. for Southampton and a Commissioner of the Board of Trade.

probably grow to such a magnitude, that none but the most desperate would wish for, and that the great independent country gentlemen should by their interposition prevent. These considerable individuals do however at this moment of expectation of a dissolution of Parliament, stand on such tender ground from the popular meetings in their respective counties, as to leave the great body of them no choice as to their immediate conduct in the House. It becomes therefore a doubt what parts of Burke's bill may, or may not pass in the Committee.

Our foreign enemies are the least of any to be dreaded. France, by what I hear, is not likely to make any great figure in the Channell. Her present preparations at Brest indicate great and distant detachments, one of which of no small magnitude with a considerable body of troops is conjectured to be destined for North America, and is expected to sail soon.

Every account which has been so lately brought by our fleet from Gibraltar, confirm the detestation of the Spaniards to the war, which prevails universally but in the Cabinet at Madrid.

(Concludes with a request for patronage for a Mr. McGuire.)

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1780, April 22.—My several dispatches to Lord Hillsborough will have stated our late Parliamentary transactions, the meritorious zeal of the Attorney General whose situation particularly requir'd his refuting the doctrines advanced by Mr. Grattan produc'd many disagreeable declarations which gave time for the suggestion of Mr. Burgh's insidious amendment and tended to lessen a majority which otherwise might have been more decided.

Mr. Burgh is supposed to have taken his amendment from a hint which fell from Mr. Flood. The Provost and his sons with some others under obligations to Government voted in the minority. The merit and the gratitude of the two gentlemen mentioned is so conspicuous that it would be derogatory to the conspicuous propriety of their conduct to couple them with meaner delinquents.

The question of the Mutiny Bill is in its consequences the most serious which could have been brought forward. It was incumbent upon me to submit the opinions deliver'd at our select meeting, but I do not feel myself in any degree equal to the forming a decided judgment of my own.

Several gentlemen who had formally pledged themselves to support Government voted in the minority last Wednesday which, together with the circumstance of many individuals concealing their sentiments makes it difficult for me to assert what may be the event of the attack upon Poyning's Law. How can the Lord Lieutenant speak with confidence upon any point at a period when no fix'd principle directs, no obligations attach and no assurances can bind? Every inconvenience must necessarily be increased from the distracted state of the Mother Country;

the doubts of the stability of the English Administration cannot but lessen the authority of those who act under them. I this morning put my name to a dispatch which, from the different people consulted who each suggested some new hint or variation in terms, appears to me a most disgracefull performance; to have digested it would have caused some delay and indeed the essentially varying expressions offer'd upon so nice a subject might have been taking too much upon myself. I think it clearly conveyed the transaction of the meeting and the necessity of my receiving immediate instructions.

The delay of determination with respect to the Irish Commercial business keeps back our supplies which, otherwise, are going on very well. No letters come to me from England, so that my conjectures from the newspapers and the communications from persons who affect to receive regular details of ministerial secrets, are my only documents for the forming any judgment of the situation of English Administration, my country and my Sovereign. I cannot help selecting from many circumstances which tend to weaken my situation in Parliament that of my having receiv'd private information of the Provost's having asserted that a modification of Poyning's Law would not be disagreeable in England.

(Draft.)

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(Private.)

1780, May 22^d. [Dublin.]—My official dispatch to Lord Hillsborough upon the subject of the Mutiny Bill was in a great measure drawn from the sentiments of those gentlemen whom I deem'd it incumbent upon me to consult. But so far from having shewn any disposition or the least inclination to transmit a proposition of that tendency, I have not omitted any opportunity of inforcing the inexpediency of it and the very fatal consequences which might attend the pressing forward so material a constitutional innovation. At a general meeting yesterday of the principal officers of the crown and the gentlemen of most distinguish'd influence, I stated my last instructions from Lord Hillsborough, express'd in the most forcible terms my wish to oppose a Mutiny Bill, and, after earnestly requesting the support of all the friends of English Government, immediately withdrew, as conceiving that no further deliberation was admissible. Indeed, your Lordship will receive the copy of a letter which I this morning sent to the Speaker, it may convince you that there is no remissness on my part.

There is scarcely a doubt of the Bills being admitted, but possibly the remonstrances which have been inforced, and the apprehensions which have been express'd, may determine its being model'd into something not very exceptionable. Tho' it has not been particularly mark'd to me except through Mr. Sackville Hamilton, the late conduct of the Irish Nation must be so deservedly reprobated in England, that private correspondence will necessarily have circulated it pretty generally here.

There exists that indisposition in all the men of abilities to act in cordial concert, that every proceeding in Parliament is in a degree uncertain. I am also oblig'd continually to conceal resentment, for the purpose of carrying the business of Government through the session; when it is concluded, divested from any resentment of my own, or any apprehension of that of others, I shall state the merits and misconduct of gentlemen in and out of office, and recommend with firmness and impartiality such arrangements as may give a more consistent strength to H. M. Irish Government than the particular fatality of the times and the insanity of individuals has lately admitted of.

(Draft.)

SIR J. IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, May 23. Jermyn St. . . .—I should have made the best use I could of the succession you proposed to have made on the vacancy occasioned by Col. Lascelles' removal, but it was settled before I last wrote. I fancy I forgot to say that Col. Lascelles sold his Lieut.-Colonelcy and the whole succession goes by purchase. Your Excellency will perceive by various ways that this country is at last returning to its senses, and business going on in the House of Commons in the old way. I believe we shall conclude Mr. Bushe's bill today, and I take for granted Mr. Dunning's Committee will be closed on Friday next.

H. T. CLEMENTS* to THE SAME.

1780, May 26.—Is persuaded "that every well wisher to H. M.'s Government, your Excellency's administration and the welfare and the happiness of the two Kingdoms must ardently contribute to obtain the Bill for Mutiny and Desertion, now to be framed."

WILLIAM BURTON† to THE SAME.

1780, May 26. Treasury.—From the time that the question of a Mutiny Bill has been agitated I have had but one opinion, that of the necessity of passing it, from this obvious reason, that the execution of every part of the British Act subjects those concerned to the prosecution and trial by Jury. The shape that may be deemed most admissible is certainly that which will be adopted by every well-wisher to the welfare of Great Britain and Ireland. My wishes to assist Your Excellency's Administration (if there could be any additional incentive) induce me to act upon that principle.

* Henry Theophilus Clements, M.P. for Leitrim, Deputy Vice-Treasurer of Ireland and Privy Councillor since 1777. He was also Deputy Constable of Dublin Castle.

† The Rt. Hon. William Burton, M.P. for Ennis, and a Privy Councillor. He held also the office of Teller of the Exchequer.

EARL OF GRANARD to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, June 2.—I esteem myself extremely fortunate that I have it in my power to give so early a proof of my respect and attachment to His Majesty and His Government, and I feel myself much indebted to Your Excellency for pointing out that method which enables me to express by my present conduct those sentiments. Since your Excellency thinks it desirable for His Majesty's service that Mr. S. Hamilton should be in Parliament at this juncture I shall delay gratifying the dictate of private friendship to return him for the now vacant seat in my Borough of St. Johnstown. . . .

(*Copy.*)

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE to THE SAME.

1780, June 3. London.—Relating to his having parted with his estates at Beeralston, and to his having long brought into Parliament “a gentleman of Lord Buckinghamshire's recommendation.”

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1780, June 8.—(Desiring an answer to his despatch which accompanies the Heads of a Bill respecting the regulation of the Army in Ireland, which were brought up from the House of Commons.)

No new occurrence deserving particular communication has happen'd since my last, the appointment, however, of Lord Charlemont by many of the Northern Volunteer Companys to act as their Reviewing General, do's not imply a very affectionate disposition to Government, as it was not possible for them to have made a more offensive choice. This circumstance will be far from pleasing to Mr. Conolly, but he prudentially means to decline shewing any dissatisfaction, and purposes to be present at the Derry Races as usual.

The delay of intelligence from Charlestown, the general disapprobation signifyd by Sir G. Rodney relative to the conduct of his Fleet (which seems indeed to be so general as to prove too much), the imperfect rumors which have reached me of the Riot raised by that madman G. Gordon, added to my feelings with respect to those material Irish Measures which still remain undecided, keep my spirits in unceasing agitation. If the Protestant tumult was as serious as some letters received here represent, I cannot but imagine that either the English Messenger who arriv'd yesterday, or the post would have brought me a line upon the subject. Lady Crosby seems in great health and spirits, my daughter is happy in enjoying a considerable proportion of her society.

(*Draft.*)

GEORGE BYNG* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, June 9. Wrotham Park.—Tho' I received your very kind letter on Tuesday, I have not felt my mind at rest sufficient even to return you my grateful thanks. The miserable situation of the town, the irresolution of the Many, the indecision of those in power, left every body at the mercy of the Mob, not formidable in my opinion from their numbers, but from the want of knowing what to do in those with whom the power was lodged.

You will have heard from other hands the damages done, they are great, but to one who thinks the whole might have been prevented by the least prudential foresight, I am wild to think that so much weakness should have been discovered to the people with so much real strength at hand. Lord Rockingham's house was threatened, I set up both Tuesday and Wednesday night as one of its weak defenders, had they come there as they threatened instead of going to Lord Mansfield's, I believe they would in some measure have been quieted, by meeting such a resistance as would have marked out to them how easily a house may be defended. The House of Commons adjourning yesterday, and a considerable military force marching in to town made my presence no longer necessary so I returned here, mortified to the greatest degree at the sight of the two most detestable extremes, a lawless mob, and a Military Government.

Tho' I was the first in the House to attack Lord G. Gordon, yet I have not heard the least intimation of any attack on my house, it would have fell an easy, undefended prey as I thought more of my friends than for myself.

Do give my love to Lady Buckingham, accept my unfeigned thanks.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to THE SAME.

(Private and Secret.)

1780, June 11. St. James's.—I should not have failed to have given your Excellency constant accounts of the dreadful and unaccountable Insurrection which for four days together has made such devastation in this town, and threatened not less than the total destruction of it, and even the subversion of the Government, but that I really have not had time sufficient to write any letter but such as were absolutely necessary, and I have been the less uneasy on this head, because I knew that our friend Lord Barrington wrote to you every night the accounts he had received from me. He is gone out of town today, and I therefore acquaint your Excellency that this day has been quiet and has been employed in stating the evidence against Lord George Gordon, who, your Excellency knows was yesterday committed to the Tower, and against many other prisoners, and in discovering and taking many of the rioters. I most sincerely hope, and have reason to believe that the military have at last put an end to this disturbance. The Parliament is adjourned to

* M.P. for Middlesex.

Monday se'ennight, till which time I believe we shall remain on our guard. I think it fit to inform your Excellency that Lord George Gordon, in the course of his examination yesterday, informed us that he had received a letter from the Protestants in and near Killarney in Ireland, desiring his Lordship's advice how they should behave, as they were under great apprehensions from the Papists in that part. This I believe his Lordship disclosed without consideration, and it is very probable he has correspondents in different parts of that kingdom, which will make it necessary for your Excellency to be very attentive to this subject, lest disturbances should also break out on your side, for I apprehend it would totally destroy poor Ireland to have a contest about Religion, superadded to those with which we are threatened about the Constitution.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, June 15. St. James's.—I have the pleasure to inform your Excellency that since my last the riots and disturbances that had almost threatened the dissolution of Government and the destruction of this city have happily subsided. Our jails are full of criminals, but they are all of the lowest rank of the people, except Lord G. Gordon, who will probably suffer. The King goes to the House on Monday to give us a speech upon these matters.

I congratulate your Excellency with all my heart upon the very important and decisive success of Sir H. Clinton, the Extraordinary Gazette I have the honour to enclose will relate it to you. During our commotions no business but what related to them could go on, we shall now resume our attention.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to THE SAME.

1780, June 15. Jermyn Street.—I most sincerely congratulate your Excellency on the important news brought this morning by Lord Lincoln of the taking Charlestown with 7,000 men prisoners by Sir Henry Clinton, suffering no more than two officers killed, very few wounded, and under 200 killed and wounded private. Lord George, who is gone to the Cabinet, has left orders for a Gazette to be sent to your Excy. as soon as it can be printed. I hope it will come out before the post goes off. This news has thrown a great damp on the dissaffected, and was proclaimed by the guns and *feu de joye* of all the troops in the camps and several parts of the town.

Charles Town.

Taken :—

- 7 Ships and 3 French Frigates.
- 500 Pieces of Cannon.
- 1 General.
- 6 Brigadier Generals.
- 16 Colonels.

22 Lt.-Colonels.
 25 Majors,
 114 Captains.
 250 Subalterns.
 120 Staff.
 4,200 Rank and File.
 900 Sailors.
 900 Militia.

6,554 in all surrender'd at discretion.
 12th May, loss of 200 British.
 All the Continental Troops released on parole.
 7 Privateers carried into New York.
 8,000 Rations were issued daily.*

[MAJOR] RICHARD VYSE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, June 16. Lichfield.—I left London on Tuesday evening, and have the satisfaction to inform your Excellency that everything was at that time perfectly quiet. As I take it for granted you have received the most authentic intelligence with respect to everything that has lately happened at that place, I will not trouble you with a detail of circumstances as execrable as extraordinary, and which never could have happened at all but for the pusillanimity or design of two or three blundering or treacherous magistrates. If proper enquiries are made, much good may arise out of evil; if they are not made, or an ill-timed lenity arrests the course of justice, the confusion which has happened is but the beginning of misfortune. I am happy to have it in my power to inform your Excellency that all the reports which have been most industriously circulated in this country of insurrections and riots in many different counties, are entirely, except Bath, without foundation. It is true that a riot has happened at Nottingham, and that a detachment of the Blue Horse marched this morning from hence to that place in consequence of it, but this was entirely owing to a drunken quarrel between the soldiers quartered there and the people of the town, which happened so long ago as the fourth of June, and has no connection at all with anything that has happened at any other place. All the trading towns in this part of England have orders for more business than they can possibly execute, and are at present in the most perfect state of tranquillity. Give me leave to congratulate your Excellency on the success of our arms at Charles Town. The enclosed is an account which I have just received from London. As no Gazette was published when it left that place, you possibly may not yet have seen it. The following is part of a letter which I received some days ago from my friend Sir. Jos. Yorke, dated Hague May 26th, and which is of too comfortable a nature for me to omit transcribing it to your Excellency. “The last

* Enclosed in the following letter.

twelve months have been so full of remarkable events that one's head has been ready to turn every minute. I have had, and still have, my share of the bustle, but as I never ceased to think and say, so I have now the satisfaction to see, that England is equal to it all, and that in spite of foreign and domestick foes, she has a fair chance of rising superior to all her difficulties, with the hopes of which I am not a little happy. I can assure you that our reputation rises every day in Europe, whilst our enemies grow sick of the contest. My friend Lord Buckingham's task has been a very difficult one, he has conducted himself nobly, and will I still think see his labours crowned with success; nobody honours him more, or wishes him better than I do."

I did myself the honour of calling upon the young ladies in Bond Street the morning I left London, in hopes that I might have had the pleasure of informing your Excellency that I had seen them well, but I was disappointed by their being in the country.

WM. SHORT to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, June 21.—Referring to a dispute between Lord Buckinghamshire and Sir Francis Drake.

EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
(Lord Lieutenant).

1780, July 5. St. James's.—I most sincerely congratulate with your Excellency upon the good news in the Extraordinary Gazette I have the honour to enclose to you. I trust the rebellion and war draws to a conclusion. Nine of our rioters are this day ordered for execution, and many more will be convicted. Lord George Gordon is I understand to be indicted and tryed in Surrey before the special commission, but I can't tell when.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1780, July 8.—The late scenes of confusion and the important events in America, tho' of a very different cast, will fully account for your having omitted rather longer than usual giving me those flattering proofs of that obliging attention, which is one of my most essential comforts in a situation requiring many.

My expectations with respect to the Sugar Bill never went further than that middle term which your letter gives me reason to expect and I would willingly persuade myself that it will give satisfaction at least to such as any concessions can satisfy.

The Bill for the Regulation of the Army, &c., has amongst my many difficultys been the heaviest. During the time of its agitation in the House of Commons, my letters from Office treated the subject very generally, and to my understanding, not very explicitly. Nor has any most distant hint of specify'd Amendment reach'd me, except that the Cabinet had objected to

the words *during the continuance of this Act*. In consequence of that hint an unavailing attempt to remove the difficulty was made in the Privy Council. Your Lordship must, however, understand that any alteration tending to make the Bill perpetual would never be admitted in the Irish Parliament; such at least is the opinion of all those who have come within the scope of my consultation. If other material amendments had occur'd to me which could have been rendered palatable, they would certainly have been propos'd. This will naturally account for my not suggesting any to his Majesty's Ministers in a measure upon the decision of which the tranquillity of this Kingdom and the existence of his Majesty's Army in Ireland may ultimately depend. It would be extreme rashness to pledge myself for the conduct of a House of Commons where there prevails so much suspicion, so much uncertainty, and such a particular capacity of eccentrical distinction. The general cast of the foreign intelligence with which you favour me is most agreeable, and I derive no little degree of satisfaction from the mortification of his Prussian Majesty whom I have ever dislik'd, not only as a determin'd enemy to England, but as a character equally detestable in political and in private life. Whoever investigates the whole tenor of his conduct will scarcely discover any one act which indicated the most distant feelings of humanity. If the old connection between the House of Austria and the Court of Petersburg could be renewed, and England, as formerly, stood the bond of that connection, the adventitious strength which Russia has obtain'd since the accession of the present Empress, would enable such a union completely to check the restless ambition of France back'd by the insidious enmity of Frederick the 3rd (*sic*). The idea of Russia never offers itself without my lamenting the oeconomy of the English Treasury during the year 1764; as it render'd ineffectual a negotiation, which, most honourable to me, would have prov'd materially usefull to my country.* It could not indeed but have given a different cast to every political transaction in which England has since that time been engag'd. The House of Commons was this day further adjourn'd to Monday the 24th.

(*Draft.*)

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1780, Aug. 1.—When you look at the date of this letter you will not wonder at my being rather mortify'd from the circumstance of my not having receiv'd a single line respecting the important Irish business (as yet undetermin'd) since your Lordship's of the first of the last month.

A letter from Mr. Cotterel to Sir Richard Heron, signifying that the remainder of the Irish business was defer'd without fixing

* Lord Buckinghamshire failed in that year to carry a Treaty of Alliance with Russia, which was proposed by the English Government to Catherine II.

any particular day, has made it necessary for me to dispatch a messenger with official letters to Lord Hillsborough and Lord North.

I am persuaded that the reasons which determin'd the Cabinet to this delay were sufficiently cogent, but the circumstance distresses me for the present and alarms me for the future.

A feverish attack has sensibly affected me for the last two or three days, which the actual situation of my mind is by no means calculated to remedy.

(Draft.)

LORD LOUGHBOROUGH* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, Aug. 27. Lancaster.—Your goodness for me will have suggested the only reason that could excuse my delaying to express the strong sense I have of your kind remembrance of me. The change of my situation took place at a moment so singular that I found myself at once engaged in business to which I was so totally unaccustomed, that the anxiety if not the occupation of it never left me one moment. The first prospect I have perceiv'd at this place (the last upon my circuit) of being disengaged, I have taken up the pen to assure your Lordship how much your favourable opinion exalts me in my own, and how much I prize every testimony of your esteem. I trust I may congratulate you upon the happy conclusion of a Session in the beginning of which it was impossible that your friends should not feel great anxiety for the uncommon difficultys of your Lordship's situation, in the progress of which they have found much more room for congratulation to your Lordship and by your means to the publick.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

1780, Sep. 16. Dublin Castle.—As your Lordship cannot entertain a doubt of the weight of your applications with me, I may with less scruple declare that from old acquaintance and friendship the recommendation of Lord Townshend could not want any adventitious interposition. But the number of gentlemen whose names I already stand pledg'd to submit to his Majesty upon the list of Peerage is so considerable as very possibly may be disapprov'd; and the adding a gentleman, however honourable and respectable, whose claims were all long prior to my connection with this Kingdom, may embarrass the whole, and would, with reason, disgust many to whom I have refus'd that favor, tho' I stand personally oblig'd to them for supporting his Majesty's Government through the late difficultys.

* Alexander Wedderburne, H.M.'s Attorney General, was created Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in June, 1780, and immediately afterwards Lord Loughborough, Baron of Loughborough.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(Private.)

1780, Sep^r. 16.—Your two letters of the 11th were receiv'd this morning. From your not mentioning mine of the 2d and 5th they probably had not then reach'd you, which obviously arises from the easterly winds, which of late have been very prevalent. My most affectionate attachment to your Lordship has made the omission with respect to Col. Tonson a distressing weight upon my heart; that business must be settled, at any rate, to your satisfaction.

My latest informations tell me that the disposition to tumult in Dublin daily subsides, some foolish resolutions may be publish'd, but they will be counteracted by every man of discretion and property. If they reach England they should only be consider'd as the fermentation of a wretched faction supported by a few interested individuals and an abandon'd rabble.

The numbers of applications, remonstrances and representations which have been shower'd upon me from the idea of my immediate recall, has prevented me from enjoying one moment's tranquillity since the Prorogation, but I will now hope that the great brunt is nearly over.

To speak confidentially with respect to Lord Townshend, he has not the least claim upon me. We have liv'd upon very good terms in society, but our county politicks have ever been most adverse.

The idea of his Lordship carry's me into Norfolk, and induces me to mention that the uniform determination of every Administration without exception for these last thirty years to depress my family and to exalt the Townshends and Walpoles has produc'd the present situation. Repeated slights determin'd me to shew that I did not deserve them and was the occasion of their having two enemies Members for that County instead of two friends;* an evil which at this time their efforts could not remedy nor could I, unprovok'd, oppose those whom I had encourag'd originaly to stand a contest. With respect to Norwich there scarcely exist the man whom I less esteem than Sir H——— H———, his situation at Norwich was my act, and he has repaid me by accumulated ingratitude, it is unnecessary to add my indifference respecting his election.

Mr. Thurlow† in my opinion, may stand a worse chance from his sudden attack than if he had proceeded more regularly. Had I been in Norfolk my brother might have profited by the confusion.

(Draft.)

THE SAME to THE SAME.

(Private.)

1780, Oct^r. 7.—The receiving his Majesty's commands to order the 3d, 19th and 30th Regiments to be immediately prepar'd for

* Astley, De Grey and Coke had represented the county in Parliament from March, 1768, to the date of this letter.

† Mr. John Thurlow was an unsuccessful candidate for the representation of Norwich in 1780.

foreign service most seriously alarm'd me. Mature reflection and communication with the very few whom at this time there is an opportunity of seeing, has rather increas'd than lessened my apprehensions. Sir John Irvine, who last night return'd from our little encampment, feels more strongly upon the subject than myself, and your Lordship must be sensible of the consequences which may arise from the withdrawing three form'd regiments, one of which consists almost entirely of Englishmen, to be replac'd by three nominal corps to be recruited here, and who perhaps may not altogether in the course of a twelve-month amount to half an effective bataillon. Possibly these considerations may not have suggested themselves to his Majesty's Ministers from the multiplicity of objects under their deliberation, and the immediate exigencys which may have arisen from the circumstances of the war. As in my local situation I stand in some degree responsible for any measure which may affect that part of his Majesty's Dominions committed to my care, I hope my having submitted ideas similar to the above in a private official letter to Lord Hillsborough will not be thought officious or unbecoming.

EDWARD TIGHE* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, Oct. 19. Bath.—Congratulations on his release from a most arduous situation in which however his conduct has merited and obtained universal applause and has astonished those who were in any degree acquainted with the nature of his labours.

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REVD. JOHN ERSKINE† to THE SAME.

1780, Oct. 26. Cork.— . . . You are now about to be delivered from a very turbulent scene, in which you have so prudently and worthily perform'd your part; and if I may judge of the sentiments of the nation, from what I hear in this quarter of it, none who have held the reins of Empire for so many years have ever left it with so much solid applause without the shadow of reproach. This will crown you with honour in the sight of all good men, and what is still more valuable, will be a lasting and homefelt comfort in your own breast. . . .

[CAPTAIN] A. CORBETT to THE SAME.

1780, October 31. London.—I received your Excellency's letter of the 24th last night. I did imagine that my Lord Hillsborough had informed your Excellency of the King's pleasure that Lord Carlisle should set out for Ireland the 5th of December, which prevented my giving you more early intelligence. I had the honor of writing to your Excellency last

* M.P. for the Borough of Athboy. He had an office in the Irish Court of Exchequer, that of Comptroller of the Pipe.

† Dean of Cork.

night and to Mr. Sackville Hamilton. I dined to-day *tête-à-tête* with my Lord Carlisle,* and stated to him as from myself the almost impossibility of your Excellency's arranging your affairs by the tenth of December, as you had had no answer from Lord North the 24th of this month.

He told me it was the King's pleasure that he should set out the 4th of December, Sir George Cornwall is chosen Speaker, the division was 203 to 134. There is no public news in town, From what I foresee I take it Mr. Storer will be Lord of Trade in the room of Mr. Eden, but it is only my conjecture. I am very glad your Excellency was well entertained in the County of Wicklow. Mr. George Hobart, I believe, will be in England in ten days or a fortnight's time.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1780, Nov^r 2.—One short word will fully express my present feelings, *despair*.

Lord North seem's determin'd upon no measure but that of expelling me with humiliation and disgrace from this kingdom.

If the next mail do's not bring me a letter from him (as the hurry of Parliamentary business will after that put his noticing me entirely out of the question) I shall transmit every part of the business officially to Lord Hillsborough to be laid before his Majesty, appealing in some degree to him as a slighted and insulted servant.

Your favour of the 28th is received and acknowledg'd as a further testimony of your good will.

(*Draft.*)

A. CORBETT to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, Nov. 3. London.—I am sorry to perceive by your Excellency's letter of the 26th of last month that you think me wanting in attention in not informing you sooner of Lord Carlisle's intention of setting out the 5th of December. I took it for granted that Lord Hillsborough had informed your Excellency of it, and was much surprised to hear yesterday from Sir Stanier Porten that they knew nothing at their office of what time Lord Carlisle was to set out. I feel exceedingly for the very disagreeable situation your Excellency must be in, in not hearing from Lord North. He is now exceedingly ill. Mr. Foster leaves London in a day or two, and I hope he will be able to give your Excellency some satisfactory information concerning your arrangements. As your Excellency wishes me to return I should set out immediately had not Lord Carlisle written to beg your leave for me to stay with him. . . .

* The Earl of Carlisle was appointed in September, 1780, to succeed the Earl of Buckinghamshire in Ireland. Captain Andrew Corbett was one of his A.D.C.

SIR JOHN IRWINE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, Nov. 8. Piccadilly.—I have obeyed your Excy's commands to the best of my power by saying every where how extremely distressful it will be to you if on so short notice you should be obliged to leave Ireland, but I fear with very little effect, for I understand it is the King's order to Lord Carlisle that he should be in Ireland as early in December as possible; however my private opinion is that his Lordship will not leave this place so soon as the 5th (as is given out), if he does it will be the greatest inconvenience to him, as he himself told me.

By what Lord George tells me he has observed, I find he thinks your Excy. will find a gracious reception here. Lord North continues confined, so whatever business was in his hands, there it will remain till he is able to go to St. James's. Every body pities you for this delay, but I do not find any body active in endeavouring to relieve you from this disagreeable situation.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

(*Private.*)

1780, Nov^r. 12.—Five mails which arriv'd together on Friday brought me no information with respect to my arrangements. Mr. Forster has been expected these three days, but in vain, his return will be some species of consolation to me. Rumor insinuates that four of the gentlemen upon my list of New Peers will be rejected; my engagements were fulfill'd in transmitting the recommendations to his Majesty who is the best judge of the propriety of them. A dispatch was sent some few days since to Lord Hillsborough requesting the King's approbation that Lord Carlisle's journey might be postpon'd for a few days till my business could be settled. If this is rejected it will give me the fullest conviction that my slender credit in the closet is ruin'd. Disagreeable truths with respect to the situations and opinions of this Kingdom it has been my unfortunate duty to state, it was not within my ability to induce the Irish to think with me or generally to adopt that conduct which as a dutifull subject and a good citizen I wish'd to recommend. The conclusion of my administration has however been judg'd to be honourable and meritorious by the world at large, and with every prospect of confusion the tranquility of this Kingdom has been preserv'd. At the moment of my writing those few lines of the 2^d of November, the agitation of my mind had greatly warped my understanding, calmer moments induc'd me to adopt a more temperate conduct as you will observe from my official dispatches. But tho' the warmth of my feelings is smother'd by discretion, yet the interior ferment is still the same. May you, my dear Lord, never experience any thing similar.

P.S. You may have seen in the newspapers that the Volunteers propos'd to escort me at my departure, an offer which I have politely declin'd as I have any marks of their attention upon every occasion.

(*Draft.*)

ROBERT GAMBLE* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1780, Nov. 22. Sackville Street.—(Mr. Secretary Hamilton had communicated to him his Excellency's intention of recommending him and his family to His Majesty.) I cannot conclude this letter without assuring your Excellency that mixing a great deal with the world I receive the most inexpressible pleasure in hearing your Excellency the subject of praise and affection among all ranks of men. When you shall be remov'd to the Royal Presence you will carry with you the most honorable testimony and reward of your virtuous administration, the hearts and affections of a truly grateful people, who will not fail to publish to Europe that your Excellency has been the real friend and patron of Ireland. I shall ever be proud that your Excellency has been pleas'd to think me not unworthy of your attention for speaking the language of my heart.

SIR JOHN IRWINE TO THE SAME.

1780, Decr. 2. Piccadilly.— I do not pretend to enter into the subject of your situation at present. I can only assure your Excy. that no man can feel more about it, and I believe no man has said so much on that head in all places, than I have.

Give me leave to trouble your Excy. with two proposals of Colonel Burgoyne, one for raising, the other for getting together a Regiment of light Dragoons. He has desired me to transmit them to your Excy., which I could not refuse doing; besides I am of opinion that the first of the two proposals (if it was thought necessary) might be useful with some little alteration.

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As soon as the parliament adjourns, I propose going to the Bath for two or three weeks, where I hope to put my stomach into better repair.

A Packet of 24 Papers relating to the period of Lord Buckinghamshire's Vice-Royalty, Jan. 1777—Dec. 1780, contains the following:—

An address from the Merchants, Traders and others, inhabitants of Dublin upon his arrival.

An address from the Roman Catholics of Ireland on the same occasion.

The Quakers' address, *ibid.*

The Protestant Dissenters' address, *ibid.*

Lord Buckinghamshire's enrolment as a Freeman of the City of Cork.

1777, April 11.—Presentation of the Freedom of the City of Dublin conferred on the Earl of Buckinghamshire.

1777, Feb. 20.—Honorary Degree of Doctor of Trinity College, Dublin, conferred 20 February, 1777. Signed by John Hely Hutchinson, Provost.

* M.P. for the Borough of Newcastle in Dublin in 1781.

1777, Nov. 19.—Lord Mayor's address.

1778, Feb.—An address praying for Royal Protection to the Fisheries of Ireland.

Division Lists for the years 1777 and 1778. (Errata List).

1778, Feb.—Address from the Trustees of the Linen Manufacture.

1778, Mar. 7.—Address of the Mayor, Sheriffs, etc., of Cork to the Lord Lieutenant.

1778, March 26.—An address praying for preferment for the Rev. Mr. Dean Pery.

A petition against the taxes about to be levied for paving, cleansing and lighting the city of Dublin.

The address of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal on the occasion of war being declared against France.

The election of Lord Buckinghamshire as President to the Lying-In Hospital.

An address from the High Sheriff and Grand Jury of the County of Leytrim.

An address from the Merchants of the City of Dublin, with thanks for Protection from American Privateers.

The Humble Petition of Mary Ann D'Arcy, spinster (attested by Charles Elphin).

1780.—Address of the Freemen and Grand Jury etc. of the County and City of Dublin—(on the occasion of Lord Buckinghamshire's departure).

May, 1776 to 1791.—To the period also of the Earl of Buckinghamshire's Vice-royalty belongs a large correspondence in relation to patronage, and even as late as 1791, eleven years after he had left Ireland, applications were still made to him to use his supposed influence with successive Ministers or Lord Lieutenants. The letters are from the following:—

1776.—Lord Howe (in reply to Lord Buckinghamshire's recommendation of Lt. Drury), the Earl of Suffolk, Mr. Edward Stopford, Earl Ludlow, the Lord Chancellor of Ireland [Lifford,] the Earl of Courtown, Lord Desart, Earl of Cavan, Mr. Caulfield, W. Maxwell, J. Staples, Charles Churchill, the Earl of Clanbrassil, M. O'Bryen [Taplow Court,] the Earl of Radnor.

1777.—Lord Clifford, J. Hatsell, Sir John Irwine, Earl of Coventry, R. Vernon Sadleir, Lord Inchiquin, Capt. E. Fuller, Francis Matthew, Viscount Glerawly, Lord Erne, Lord Glandore, the Earl of Ely, Mrs. Grenville, Viscount Barrington, W. Tonson, the Earl of Oxford, General R. Pierson, Earl of Denbigh.

1778.—Lord Brownlow, R. Worsley, Edward Eliot of Port Eliot, the Earl of Rochford, Lt.-General J. Johnston, the Countess of Kildare, Mr. James Fortescue, Lord Ravensworth, the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. John Craddock, the Duke of Marlborough, Hans Sloane, Sir John Goodricke, the Archbishop of Cashel, [Dr. Michael Cox,] Sir William Draper, J. Heywood, G. Thornton, the Earl of Clanricarde, the Earl of Lanesborough, R. Rochfort, the Earl of Belvedere, the Marquis

of Hertford, the Earl of Guilford, Lord Marchmont, Lord Cadogan, Robert Gamble (to Sir Richard Heron), the Earl of Hardwicke, Mr. Wedderburn, the Bishop of Cork, Sir Wm. Osborne, R. Fitzgerald, the Earl of Shannon, the Duke of Queensbury, the Earl of Bective, the Earl of Ross, Robert Clements, Rev. John Erskine, Sir Michael Cromie, Lord Inniskillen.

1779.—Lord de Vesci, Countess of Massareene, Arthur Pomeroy, “The humble Memorial of Lady Mary and Lady Katherine Butler on behalf of themselves and their four Infant Sisters,” Edmund Pery, Col. Brown, Viscount Carlow, Bishop of Killaloe (Dr. Chinnery), Sir Wm. Howe, Mr. Thomas Nesbitt, Earl of Tyrone, Earl of Granard, Lord Amherst, Count de Welderen, C. Turner, the Archbishop of York, Lord Clifden, Major Vyse, Captain Wm. Elliot, Hugh Hill, Col. Sandford, the Earl of Tyrone, the Duke of Leinster, Lord Annaly, the Bishop of Ossory (Newcome).

(1780.)—Edward Hamilton, the Earl of Altamont, Lord Bangor, Thomas Mahon, Lord Crosbie, Robert Jephson, the Countess of Granard, Rt. Hon. W. Brownlow, Lady E. Ponsonby, Lord Walpole, Lt.-Gen. Cunningham, Hon. James Browne, Lord Westport, Dean Woodward [of Clogher], Alderman Henry Bevan, Col. Wm. Burton, Charles Coote (Dean of Kilsenora), Earl of Inchiquin, Lord Chief Baron Ducie, Lord Farnham, Lord Naas, Mr. John O’Niel, Lord Doneraile, Sir Robert Deane, Edward Hunt.

1781.—The Lord Primate of Ireland (Dr. Richard Robinson, of Armagh), Lt. Bolton, Earl of Carlisle, Sir A. Schomberg, Count O’Rourke (to Ld. North), Mr. Paul Canning, Sir R. Palmer, the Rt. Hon. Wm. Eden, the Earl of Sandwich, Lady Roche, James Shiel, Godfrey Green, Sir James Browne, Sir Charles Douglas.

1782.—Capt. (Richard Vere) Drury.

1784.—Capt. H. W. Lacey, (1785) Luke Gardiner, (1786) Anthony King.

1788.—Capt. Sweetman.

1790.—Sir Boyle Roche.

Between 1781 and 1791.—There are draught letters also on this same subject of patronage from the Earl of Buckinghamshire to (1781) Earl of Carlisle, Rt. Hon. W. Eden, Mr. Edward Tighe, the Archbishop of Cashel, Mr. Green, Sir J. Brown, (1783) Lord Altamont, (1785) Luke Gardiner, (1788) Earl Nugent, (1791) P. Tottenham.

DEAN RICHARD WOODWARD* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Jan. 3. Dublin.—(Reference to some Church patronage.) Nothing new has occurred since you left this kingdom but the phenomenon of public thanks following a departed Lord Lieutenant, and our newspapers filled with applause instead of abuse. Lord Carlisle was prevented by the gout from making a visit to Castletown on Monday.

* Dean of Clogher—made Bishop of Cloyne, 1781, Jan. 20.

LORD HILLSBOROUGH to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Jan. 3. Hanover Square.—Acknowledges his obliging letter, informing him of his safe arrival. Congratulations on his return. “If my Lady Buckingham looks as beautiful as she did on New Year’s Day, I pity you.”

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to SIR H. CLINTON.

1781, Jan. 5. London.—I almost doubt if all my letters have reached you, but your candor will attribute it to the circumstances which necessarily render the correspondence between America and the British Islands very uncertain.

The account that we have respecting the situation of the war damp’d those hopes which of late have been too sanguinely entertained in Ireland. It concerns me very seriously that the resources of the Empire cannot supply you with means adequate to the exigencies of the service and your acknowledged ability of exerting them.

Two days only have elapsed since my return to England, and not having as yet seen either my Master or his Ministers you must not expect any authentick information. It has been my good fortune to leave Ireland in peace and prosperity, the goodwill of the Nation attended me to the yatch, and there has been some reason to think that my indefatigable attention may have contributed to dispell that illusion which might possibly have produced events too nearly resembling your unhappy American—write when you can—if Phillips is near you assure him of that affectionate regard which has frequently felt his calamity’s.—This will be delivered to you by Wm. Ludlow, son of Lord Ludlow, and nephew of Lord Scarborough; it is without reluctance that I obey Lady Buckingham’s command in recommending him to your protection. She is not less your friend than my dear General, yours, etc.

(Draft.)

MAJOR RICHARD VYSE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Jan. 12. Dublin Castle.—Congratulations on his return to his native land after the troubles and fatigues he has suffered. Mr. and Mrs. Vyse are about to leave their habitation in the Castle where they had received so much kindness from Lord Buckinghamshire and his family.

THOMAS CONOLLY to THE SAME.

1781, Jan^y 13.—By your silence about your passage and journey I conclude them both as void of novelty as possible, except that you had been near falling in with the *Royal Chace* on the latter. I have often wish’d myself present at your interview last Wednesday, your prudence might be greater than mine, but certain I am that no truth should escape the King’s knowledge that could in any shape give him a right idea of this kingdom, of

which I am persuaded he has but a faint one. You owe this to your own character and to both these country's, who I am persuaded will always go hand in hand, unless separated by artful or misinformed servants of the Crown.

Our new Lieutenant came here (his first visit, being confined since you left him with the gout) on fryday and left us this morning. He is very well bred, and easy in his manner, tho' very slack of conversation, not only at his levée, but everywhere. Blaquire* I hear and believe is to have a great share of Mr. Eden's† confidence and is to be a *second Minister*. This will not do, nor ought it, I see it big with evils of all kinds, but I fear Government here will soon be too far enlisted to go back. If anything could warp my principles about supporting Government this would, but I will endeavour to make the best of it, and parry as much mischief as I can. Our gallery is full, some singing, some playing at chess, others at cards, in short making so much noise that I must conclude this with an apology for not digesting its contents better, but as you have excused much nonsense from me before, you will forgive me now.

P.S. Loves to Caroline and dear little Emily.

JOHN FOSTER to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Jan. 21. Collon.—Had great pleasure in hearing from Lord Buckinghamshire that his reception at St. James' was entirely to his satisfaction. "The labours of a difficult administration involved with the subjects of the greatest nicety and embarrassed with every distress peculiar to the times are now rewarded in the approbation of His Majesty joined with the grateful applause of a whole nation."

SIR HENRY CLINTON to THE SAME.

1781, Jan. 15 and 22.—Your Lordship may possibly read in our newspapers that the whole Rebel army has revolted. Not so, my dear Lord, but 'tis true that the Pensilvanians have, and I think it likely it will not stop there; they demand arrears of pay, &c., &c., and to be discharged. I, of course, offer more than Congress can or will give. My offer reached them a day before theirs, General Wayne, etc., were admitted to a Conference with them, but as yet I have received no answer that I can depend upon; though the army is in motion, I dare not for the present do more than favour the revolt and offer an asylum. One step beyond that might before I know their sentiments alarm their jealousy, mar all, and reunite them to their late tyrants. My situation is critical, W . . n's not less so. I have however all to hope. He, all to fear.

* Sir John de Blaquiere, formerly Chief Secretary to Lord Harcourt. The spelling varies.

† William Eden, afterwards Lord Auckland, 1789, Principal Secretary to the Earl of Carlisle, the new Lord Lieutenant, appointed October, 1780.

‡ Wayne, General in command of the Pennsylvanian Line at Morristown.

All will, I doubt not, go well to the southward this winter, as Lord Cornwallis is in great force by the detachments I have made from this army.

Tis said, and I believe it that E. Allen and his Vermonters has joined the Canadian Army. *Enfin* if we are properly reinforced, if we remain superior at sea, and have an active *co-operating* Naval commander, I think rebellion will be staggered in the course of next campaign, without the French should be reinforced also, or these people subsidized with money, but if we are starved, all our golden dreams will vanish. I beg my best respects to the Countess.

22 Jan.—I refer your Lordship to E. Dalrymple. The revolvers have been cajoled, they have however carried their point respecting discharge, two thirds have got it. Jersey claims the same and must have it, they are to receive their arrears of pay, etc., in continental bills, 75 for 1. There are now sitting at Trentown three members of Congress, and three sergeants of the Revolvers settling matters together.

Your Lordship will conceive the moment is critical. I shall watch it. I rejoice at your return from Ireland after so honourable an administration.

The packet this instant under sail.

(Enclosed with the above are the following printed slips:—
I. and II.)

I. 1781, Jan. 7.—‘Proposals made to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Pennsylvania Line at Princeton.’

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President, and the Honourable Brigadier General Potter, of the Council of Pennsylvania, having heard the complaints of the soldiers, as represented by the sergeants, inform them, that they are fully authorized to redress reasonable grievances, and they have the fullest disposition to make them as easy as possible; for which end they propose:—

First. That no non-commissioned officer shall be detained beyond the time for which he freely and voluntarily engaged, but where they appear to have been in any respect compelled to enter or sign, such enlistments to be deemed void and the soldier discharged.

Secondly. To settle who are and who are not, bound to stay, three persons to be appointed by the President and the Council, who are to examine into the terms of enlistment;—where the original enlistments cannot be found, the soldier’s oath to be admitted to prove the time and terms of enlistment, and the soldier to be discharged upon his oath of the condition of the enlistment.

Thirdly. Wherever any soldier has enlisted for three years or during the war, he is to be discharged unless he shall appear afterwards to have re-enlisted voluntarily and freely. . . . The gratuity of *one hundred dollars* given by Congress not to be reckoned as a bounty, or any men detained in consequence of

that gratuity. The Commissioners to be appointed by the President and Council, to adjust any difficulties which may arise on this article, also

Fourthly. The Auditors to attend as soon as possible, to settle the depreciation with the soldiers and give them certificates.—Their arrearages of pay to be made up as soon as circumstances will admit.

Fifthly. A pair of shoes, overalls and shirts will be delivered to each soldier in a few days, as they are already purchased and ready to be sent forward whenever the line shall be settled.—Those who are discharged, to receive the above articles at Trenton, producing the General's discharge.

The Governor hopes that no soldier of the Pennsylvania Line will break his bargain, or go from the contract made with the public—and they may depend upon it, that the utmost care shall be taken to furnish them with every necessary fitting for a soldier.

The Governor will recommend to the State to take some favourable notice of those who engaged for the war.

The Commissioners will attend at Trenton where the clothing and the stores will be immediately brought, and the regiments to be settled with in their order. A field officer of each regiment to attend during the settlement of his regiment.

Pursuant to General Wayne's orders of the 2nd instant, no man to be brought to any trial or censure for what has happened on or since New Year's day, but all matters to be buried in oblivion.

Jos. Reed.

James Potter.

(Enclosure.)

II. 1781, Jan. 8.—His Excellency's proposals being communicated to the different regiments at Troop Beating this morning, they do voluntarily agree in conjunction that all the soldiers that were enlisted for the term of three years or during the war, excepting those whose terms of enlistment are not expired, ought to be discharged immediately with as little delay as circumstances will allow—except such soldiers as have voluntarily re-enlisted. In case that any soldier should dispute his enlistment, it is to be settled by a committee and the soldier's oath.

The remainder of his Excellency's and the Honourable Board of Committee's Proposals is founded upon honour and justice, but in regard to the Honourable the Board setting forth that there will be appointed three persons to sit as a Committee to redress our grievances. It is therefore the general demand of the line and the Board of Sergeants, that we shall appoint as many members as of the opposite, to sit as a Committee to determine jointly upon our unhappy affairs. As the path we tread is justice and our footsteps founded upon honour, therefore we unanimously do agree that there would be something done towards a speedy redress of our present circumstances.

Signed by order of the Board,

Wm. Bowzer, Secretary.

Pursuant to your Excellency's demand concerning the two Emissaries from the British, the Board of Committee resolved that those men should be delivered up to the supreme authority in order to shew that we should remove every doubt of suspicion and jealousy.

Also that the men may disperse upon being discharged, the delivering up their arms, etc.

Signed by the Board in the President's absence,

Daniel Connel, Member.

Trenton, 1781, Jan. 10.

PETER HOLMES,* Esq., to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Jan. 21. Winagh.—This letter will be delivered to your Lordship by Mr. Bayly, son of a gentleman of large property in this neighbourhood with whom I am connected by the nearest ties of friendship and of blood. He has been called to the barr here, but is now determined to go over to Charlestown, South Carolina, to vindicate and assert his rights to a very extensive property that his family have long enjoyed in that country, but in the possession of which they have been disturbed by the late troubles that have desolated that country.

The regret you were pleased to express at not having had an opportunity during your residence here of conferring on me some mark of your favour induces me to hope that your Lordship will readily embrace this opportunity of serving me thro' my friend, and that you will give or procure for this gentleman such letters of recommendation to persons in office at Carolina, as may enable him to present his just claims with vigour and effect.

I should think that a gentleman of profession educated in those principles of loyalty and attachment to his Majesty's Government so universally prevalent here, not absolutely unworthy the notice of American Administration when going there on such an errand, especially when those principles are likely to receive energy and effect from that influence which is inseparably annexed to extensive property.

CAPTAIN BURGH to THE SAME.

1781, Feb. 17. Dublin.—(Personal news and various preferments.) The Deanery of Derry† I understand is to be manufactured with an English Prebend, who is to resign to Dr. Aikin. . . . The event of the English Mutiny Bill has given very general satisfaction and has destroyed all pretence for the revival of the declaratory resolution. Lord Carlisle has taken Mr. Beresford's country house, but still lives in town.

SIR LUCIUS O'BRIEN‡ to THE SAME.

1781, Feb. 20. Dublin.—Asks for the letter or a copy of the letter in which Lord North had expressed his appreciation of the

* M.P. for the Borough of Banagher in King's County.

† The Revd. Edward Emily, A.M., was appointed Dean of Derry on the 3rd April, 1781, in succession to the Revd. W. Cecil Pery.

‡ Of Dromolen, County Clare, and M.P. for that county.

service which he had rendered to the trade of Ireland in 1778 before the Parliament of Great Britain. "It was a testimony which I thought I had reason to be proud of, and which I could wish even to transmit to my children."

BISHOP OF CLOYNE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, February 23. Dublin.—My actual appointment to the See of Cloyne would have occasioned your Lordship the trouble of receiving my thanks again, had I known to what place to address them, which I did not till I had the honour of your letter yesterday. The childishness of the measures taken at first to defeat your Lordship's recommendation, and afterwards to transfer a part of the obligation to your successor comes the nearest to an apology for the shabbiness of them. It looks as if the author of them knew no better. Your Lordship will be diverted at the last expedient. It was found out (after five months scrutiny) that I was a popular seditious man, and would prove a Napper-Tandy in Lawn. I laughed at the accusation, but it is a serious matter if Lord Carlisle (who is a man of honour) is to receive his ideas of men and things in this country from the ingenious and worthy gentlemen who described my character.

It will give me a most sincere pleasure to have an opportunity of expressing in more than words my gratitude to your Lordship. I can explain (I think) clearly the arrangement proposed by Sir R. Heron to me. It was that I should as soon as I had it in my power give a living of £500 a year to Mr. Ogle, to advance his preferment between £200 and £300 or rather £300 a year; Mr. Ogle in that case resigning his living of Castle Bellingham (with £220) to Mr. Maunsel. Our conversation was so explicit that I mentioned it to Mr. Ogle and his friend Mr. Leigh, but shall be silent for the future till I receive your Lordship's commands.

Mr. Conolly must be delighted to find all his friends rejoicing at his newspaper honours. I don't think I shall venture to mention the circumstance to Lady Louisa. The most distant hint of an Irish peerage makes her look grave.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to F. NESBIT.

1781, March 15.—The very unexpected and mortifying disappointment which I experienced with respect to many projected arrangements at the close of my Administration have prevented me from seeking for any particular communication upon Irish affairs with the Ministry since my return to England.

Lord North told me at St. James's that the first day of my appearance these pensions recommended by me were going over and it is my firm opinion that the delay arises from the dilatoriness of office and the multiplicity of important business at this time in agitation. It has never been suggested to me that there was any difficulty relative to the pension in which you are interested.

(Draft.)

The ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Mar. 19. The Palace.—I cannot omit this joyfull occasion of congratulating your Lordship on the glorious event of taking St. Eustatia, St. Martin and Saba, together with 240 ships, an infinite quantity of naval stores, provisions, merchandise, &c., and that too without the loss of almost a man, which at all times must greatly enhance the value of the conquests, but in our present critical situation renders them doubly valuable. Every one must rejoice to find that this immense loss in ships, stores, &c., falls almost entirely on the merchants of Amsterdam, a punishment strictly due to their notorious perfidy.

Mr. Keating's promotion to the Deanery of Clogher has enabled me to comply fully with your Lordship's wishes. (Has therefore collated Mr. Bourne, the Duke of Leinster's friend, to the Chancellorship of St. Patrick's and St. Werburg's, and Mr. Champagne to the prebend and living of Castle Dermot.

Hopes to be able shortly to express his gratitude to Lord Buckinghamshire in person in London.)

THOMAS CONOLLY to THE SAME.

1781, March 19. Castletown.—It was very kind of you to send me so much good news at its first arrival in London and I already anticipate a further account in about a year hence of the taking of the Spice Islands, and if worth while Batavia, so that the Mynheers by their treachery will help to make us amends for what we have lost by that of others. Peace, however, is what we must all wish for, this kingdom to make money and yours to save it, to prevent a national bankruptcy.

Tell Caroline that I believe she will loose her chaperon for Kensington Gardens for this Spring, as our climate here is *too fine* to leave it, and a journey or two to the north this summer will break in so much upon my time that I shall give up London and the fine world and rest contented with those pleasures and amusements this poor kingdom produces.

I have seen our new Viceroy but seldom, once here, and two or three times, to pay my respects at Levée, Drawing Room, etc. I have likewise seen Eden here and in Dublin; he is very alert in examining and stating the different accounts of the different Boards. He has struck the ballances, and has ask'd where they were; by the by, he has had a very lame account of several of them. Knox's debt, instead of £16,000 has turned out 40 thousand, eight hundred. Tom Shepherd of Drogheda has received the thanks of the Board for his assiduity and regularity. Our loves to Caroline.

P.S. Lord Carlisle has taken *Beresford's* country house and Eden, Blaquiere's. You must guess the consequences.

* Dr. Robert Fowler, Bishop of Killaloe, promoted to the Archbishopric in Dec. 1778.

CAPT. A. CORBETT to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, March 25. Dublin Castle.— . . . Let the enemies of Ireland say what they will. I must differ from all such and do justice to the character of the Irish in saying that they entertain the most grateful sense of the many advantages they obtained in the course of your Lordship's Viceroyalty.

The news of the taking of St. Eustatia has been received with every demonstration of joy, and the country in general I am told continues everywhere in the same peaceful disposition as when you left it. . . .

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN.

1781, March 30.—Your Grace will read with pleasure that his Majesty has honor'd me with a most gracious reception. As to those of his Ministers whose illiberal and injudicious conduct cast a shade upon the close of my Administration, you certainly will applaud, in anxious times like the present, my treating rather with coolness and reserve, rather than intemperate resentment.

(Draft. *Extract.*)

SIR HENRY CLINTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, May 15.—Your Lordship has finished *all your* campaigns most honorably. If not relieved from the disagreeable embarrassments under which I have laboured these many months, I too shall close my campaigning in this continent I hope without disgrace.

I would have written to your Lordship a long letter, but beg leave to refer you to our friend G. Leland with whom I have had most confidential conversation.

I will show your Lordship a letter I have written to the Duke of Brunswick with a short account of the operations of this campaign.

From Col. Leland your Lordship will know my griefs.

SAME to COLONEL LELAND.

1781, May 20.—You will observe what our situation is, if Lord Cornwallis should unfortunately decide upon a junction with Phillips. I must not say what will happen to the southward, nor what might have been prevented if his Lordship naturally jealous of Green (had) either fallen back into the Carolinas from Guildford Court House, from Cross Creek, or even from Wilmington, either by sea or land to George Town, for you will observe in Lord Cornwallis's letter of the 10th of April he says that Green was still at Deep River, which I have reason to believe is still further from Camden than Wilmington is. But these are only private opinions.

(Copy in Lord Buckinghamshire's handwriting. Endorsed "*Extract.*")

SIR HENRY CLINTON to COLONEL LELAND.

1781, May 23.—The same sanguine opinions still prevail in England, and amongst other things they look upon Allen as actually in arms with us, whereas all I have said is that he has separated himself from the Congress; but private letters will ruin us, they acquaint the Minister, likewise, that I can spare 10,000 men from 12,000. All my private letters say that the old Admiral is recall'd. I hope the next accounts from the Fleet will confirm it; should they not, I wait another packet from Europe and if not made easy in that respect I must quit a command which you will bear me witness cannot be honorable connected with such a naval chief. Accounts from Lord Cornwallis notwithstanding Lord Rawdon's victory, are unfavourable; a general spirit of revolt shows itself. I heartily wish that Lord Rawdon, whilst it is in his power, may move to the southward of Santee. Lord Cornwallis seems much inclined in the absence of Green to attempt a junction with Phillips, and his principal motive seems to be to avoid, as he terms it, the disgrace of going by sea to Charlestown. What a reason for making a move which must be fatal to the Carolinas and may be so to his own army, and even to that of Phillips, if the reinforcement I have sent does not arrive in time, in short, should his Lordship have made this move, *il sera, selon moi, impossible de rétablir une campagne si mal commencée et à plus forte raison, je me retirerai du jeu.* In the temper I am in, if I knew where to find his Lordship, I should do it immediately, for notwithstanding I am free to own if we are properly reinforced, the French, not, and we remain superior at sea and don't blunder, much may be done in the course of this campaign, yet if by our false move we lose the Carolinas we are undone. To this hour I know not the force Lord Cornwallis entered the Carolinas with. No returns but what he had in the action by which the Guards, who joined his Lordship 800 fit for duty are reduced to 422; Bose* from 480 to 256, and all the rest in proportion.

(Copy of extract in Lord Buckinghamshire's handwriting.)

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1781, May 26.—The more I ponder upon our situation in the Carolinas the more I am alarmed at it. Lord Rawdon's success will have saved it for the present and I hope if Green is likely to remain in force, and he is not reinforced, that his Lordship will quit Camden.

General A. is arrived, he says that one of the reasons of the reduced numbers before Guildford was the great number of soldiers worn down with fatigue. He hints at desertion, which such a march must of course have occasioned. I have been comparing the returns fit for duty of those I last year left with

* A Hessian Regiment whose commander was De Bose.

his Lordship, the reinforcements I have since sent him and his last returns, and I find the deficiency nearly 2,445 men at a much healthier season than when I left him.

(Copy of extract in Lord Buckinghamshire's writing.)

LT.-COL. VYSE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, June 6. Dublin.—(Delayed writing till the 4th and 5th of this month should be over.)

The former being the Birthday and the latter a general Field day of the Volunteers, between them both I had flattered myself with the hopes of being able to pick up something that might have contributed for a moment to your entertainment.

On Monday there was an Ode and Dinner at the Castle as usual, and on Tuesday morning his Excellency returned again to the country. There was much about the usual number of men at the Castle in the morning, but our shew of ladies was not indeed very brilliant; for excepting Lady Carlisle and her sister, Mrs. Towler and Mrs. Sackville Hamilton were our only beauties. Lord Charlemont, Reviewing General of the Volunteers, has had a guard at his house ever since they assembled, and had a levée on the morning of the Birthday, about the same time that there was one at the Castle.

So great a number of the inhabitants of this place never, I believe, were collected together before as were assembled yesterday morning in the Phoenix Park. The number of Volunteers was not near so great as I expected to have seen. They did not, I think, exceed above eighteen hundred in all, but these were very well appointed and armed, and would, I dare say, have performed all their business with much more regularity had not a heavy rain began just as their General came upon the ground. The papers have swelled their numbers to between three and four thousand. Your Lordship may therefore upon this occasion believe about half what they tell you, which is giving them a much more ample credit than they often deserve. My calculation I believe is tolerably exact, as I compared it with several others made by persons who had been at the trouble of counting them.

I send your Lordship enclosed a plan of a Review which is to take place on the 20th July next. With respect to our own military operations for the summer, nothing is to be determined till Sir John Irwine returns to us. Whether any of us are to take the field or what disposition is to be made of us we are at present totally ignorant.

It is rumoured that an arrangement in the law-line is soon to take place, in consequence of the Lord Chancellor's wishing to retire. . . .

Since I troubled your Lordship with my last letter I have myself been a very great traveller, at least almost as great a one as this island would allow me to be, having spent above two months at the different quarters of my new regiment, at Ballinrobe, Dunmore, Castlebar and Sligo. Farther to the west I could

not go. I found my regiment much in the situation I expected, but I knew, in some degree at least, the state of it before I joined it, and therefore did not suffer any mortification from disappointment. I have endeavoured all in my power to convince both the officers and men that I have no object but their happiness and interest, and I make no doubts but we shall agree extremely well. I wish to interest them in every measure that I take, by pointing out to them the advantages of that order and regularity it is intended to establish. My journey round the quarters of my regiment was a very long one, and great part of it thro' the wildest country I ever saw, and which is, I think, less improved within these twenty years than any other part of Ireland. . . .

EDWARD TIGHE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, July 17. Waltrim, near Bray.—Mr. Hamilton, I understand, is somewhat better. He is drinking water in the North of Ireland, which Dr. Quin believes will be of great service to his health. I wish he had taken a trip to Spa, or at least to Bath. . . .

The Lord Lieutenant appears to pass almost the whole of his time at his little Fingalian Villa, where I understand there is not room even for Corbet. There is an audience, however, every Thursday at the Castle.

Eden is most active, punctual and cheerfull. He is rummaging all the offices, and enforcing residence and attendance. Very good employ, before more pressing business arises. The losses to the public by Knox and others are attributed to the ill state of the office of the Accountant General. Such failures naturally awaken attention.

The Volunteer forces appear in great splendour at field days, reviews, &c., in several parts of the kingdom. There had been one in the Phœnix Park the day before I landed, and the men were for three days billeted upon the inhabitants of Dublin. Yet I much doubt whether the numbers are increas'd. While the war lasts they probably will flourish. Peace so earnestly to be wished for must effectually put an end to them. The wild ideas of independence and separation, &c., I am told are spread far and wide. I cannot refrain exclaiming:—

“Curse on the innovating hand attempts it!

“Whose damn'd Ambition would get.” (sic.)

I know your Lordship will pardon my warmth.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1781, July 31. Waltrim, near Bray.— . . . My time is chiefly occupied by bathing, medicine, exercise, and some degree of study. I see no politicians, but by accident, but have the pleasure to hear your name always mention'd with the highest respect and gratitude.

His Excellency I have seen only once. He lately pass'd very near me in a tour to General Cuninghame, Powerscourt, &c.

I have had two private days with Eden in the Park. We have been intimate for many years, and I wish to give him all the little assistance in my power. He seems to think that the moment Flood shew'd himself determinedly hostile you should have insisted upon his dismissal from office, and not have consented to wait for the *conclusion of the Session*. This was said in a tête-à-tête. I find that he has been receiv'd very coolly and as he tells his friends, with insolence; has not receiv'd the least satisfaction or even encouragement as to any of his points, and has been fairly told that he had a narrow escape, which he did not deserve.

The having made any request in the least degree improper would hurt me exceedingly, but a view of the rough loose sheets of your Irish History,* to refresh my memory in case of questions, would I think, be usefull. Your Lordship is very well assured that the use which I should make of any extracts or memoranda would and indeed must be for the honor of your Government.

Reviews of the Volunteers are still going on, and Government are still busy in correcting abuses of office and regulating the revenues. I hear, however, that several of the Northern corps (and Mr. Brownlow in particular) have refused to enter into violent resolutions at Belfast in imitation of the lawyers and some other bodies. I hear we are reasonably strong in the Channel, but I tremble for the East and West Indies.

The King's last speech is a very good one. I hope his next will contain something to cheer us.

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to SIR H. CLINTON.

1781, August 19.—Leland has just left me after a friendly visit of ten days, during which time our conversation repeatedly turned upon the general situation of America and the circumstances which more particularly affected yourself.

It concerns me very seriously that you should experience other uneasiness than what must necessarily rise from the most critical and anxious trust committed to your care, but if as you suspect Ministers have paid attention to private correspondence (rather) than to the information immediately received from you, it is a misfortune which the writer of this letter has shared in the fullest extent.

During the tedious series of my last turbulent sessions, when difficulty every hour multiplyd upon me, my commendations were little depended upon, but there was every reason to apprehend that the assertions and insinuations of my open and secret enemies were received with predilection. Positive proof cannot be given of this; at the close however of my Government even after every difficulty had been most decidedly surmounted Ministers refused to dismiss those who, tho' loaded with accumulated favours, had strenuously opposed me, nay promoted one who stood in that predicament in preference to an honourable

* Lord Buckinghamshire writes later that this was no longer in his own hands.

and steady friend particularly patronised by me. Is it not then natural to doubt as well of the candor as of the cordiality of the Cabinet? The surest way by which a little man may rise to second-rate greatness is by furnishing intelligence agreeable to the wishes, passions and prejudices of his superiors.

The news of Admiral Arbuthnot's return was most gratefull to me, as well as the idea which now universally prevails that ample justice is done to your merit, and that you will have no cause to withdraw those services from your country which are so essential to her.

Nothing can be more private than my present situation—scarcely any communication with Ministers and none with the opposition, tho' I do not implicitly swear by the conduct of the first, I most cordially abjure the measures of the latter. Leland told me of the notice taken by the Royal family of your son, which could not but be, as it was intended, flattering to you; the idea of seeing the young gentleman hereafter with his father at Blickling gives me sensible pleasure.

Lady Buckingham regards you most cordially.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to EDWARD TIGHE.

1781, Aug. 21.--Some apprehensions insinuated in your last letter respecting the political dispositions of many of your countrymen have painfully dwelt upon my recollection, should they prove so wild as, instead of availing themselves of their lately acquired advantages, to quarrel with Great Britain, the Nation will commit a more disgraceful blunder than invention ever attributed to any Irish individual. Their conduct during the last sessions (some factious flights excepted) bought them golden opinions,—which should be worn in the gloss—and the exchange of good-will they claim in addition to any publick feelings would induce me vainly to hope—*alios animos in contentione Libertatis et honoris, alios secundum deposita certamina in incorrupto judicio fore.*

Upon the whole it is my most cordial wish that success may attend your present Government, and I should think their steadiness and abilitys, together with the support they are sure of from home, will easily surmount any difficultys with which they may be threatened.

It is not in my power to send you any flattering news, some accounts of the state of America have lately been given me by men fresh from the spot who must have possessed diffusive intelligence; the campaign seems to be wasting without any of those decided events which can alone prevent the ruinous continuation of the war.

The reception given to Mr. Flood at the Castle was truly becoming. When Mr. Eden says I ought to have insisted upon that gentleman's immediate dismissal, he do's not recollect, for he could not but have known, the very slender favor I possess'd in the English Cabinet, you were no stranger to my apprehensions

at some critical periods, when the perverseness of some men, the duplicity of others, and the consequential accumulated embarrassments provoked me to suspect that there were not wanting those in either Kingdom who wish'd my disgrace almost at the expence of publick calamity.

Indeed, tho' ideas of this tendency might be admitted in the peevish moment of distress, calm reflection must convince us such abominable absurdity could not really exist.

My retreat from London was very early, and no material information has reached me in these shades, but in the beginning of June cordiality and concert did not prevail amongst the great men. You will, however, as an honorable politician hear with pleasure, that the English American Patriots daily lose ground in the national esteem. Many of them possess abilities and private virtues, had they been totally inestimable, the destruction their suggestions have produced would have been less extensive. Let them prosper in their private situations, yet never attain that ministerial dignity their ambition has so ruinously emulated.

“Nor reap the Harvest tho' they've spoil'd the feild.”

(*Draft.*)

EDWARD TIGHE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Sept. 3. Waltrim, near Bray.—Your very obliging favour of Aug. 21st was most flattering. The sentiments so exactly correspond with my own, that I cannot consider myself as of that country, which, in such a time, and under such circumstances of obligation, has the folly and wickedness to seek for a rupture with the elder sister.

I am in truth a mix'd subject, and I feel myself to be an impartial one. My birth, as well as my parents, my education, and habits are English; my fortune, prospects and Parliamentary connexions Irish.

Still it may be hoped that my apprehension with respect to any present hatching of wicked politicks are not founded. I mean so far as to include any considerable numbers. Spirits there are, and ever will be, who are nothing if not mischievous; from them, questions in Parliament of the worst tendency are to be expected. Indeed the newspapers sufficiently shew the intentions of several individuals and of some bodies. For these, the real friends of the Constitution should be prepared, and I shall esteem myself much honor'd, if when you have half an hour to bestow upon such a subject, you will favor me with a few sentences, detach'd or otherwise, which you would wish to have pronounc'd at College Green. Supported by your opinion and assistance, I shall feel myself embolden'd more than I have ever done. Diffidence, arising from several causes, and ill-health have in general kept me upon my seat, but ‘I own the glorious subject fires my breast.’

That some vote tending to a separation will be proposed there can, I fear, be little doubt. To meet it with argument, force and resolution should be one of the first objects of Government.

I believe the Lord Lieutenant and Secretary have very nearly the same opinion of individuals that your Lordship entertain'd. The idea of a quondam Secretary having much weight does not appear to me to be well founded. He probably has been listen'd to as well as several others, but by no means with peculiar confidence. Mr. E. seems to think (and as far as my judgment and experience goes, thinks wisely, and I remember it was your Lordship's opinion) that many of what are called constitutional questions, particularly Poyning's, have no real or intrinsic importance, and that the House of Commons contains such a variety of different sentiments upon that subject that it might safely be indulg'd in the framing almost any propositions arising from it. If he can satisfy the King's Cabinet of this truth perhaps the doctrine may be usefull in these times.

Lord Loughborough is now at Eden's in the Park and I hear is to stay in Ireland some time. Just at this juncture an invasion has started up. Your Lordship had many of them, but this is *the first appearance this season*.

I understand that Mr. Foster and those few who deserve to be confided in, will have their full weight when the curtain is drawn up. Hitherto Mr. E. has been peeping through the slits, and has had the management, I believe, to conceal not only from the audience, as is the case at the French Comedy, but even from the actors, *who* are to perform the principal characters.

Upon this day month the Parliament of Ireland is to meet, *bonis avibus*, I trust.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to ED. TIGHE.

1781, Sept. 25.—The idea of any votes being formally propos'd tending to a dissolution of the connection between the two Kingdom's or at least of such a vote's being countenanc'd by any respectable characters, go's much beyond any parliamentary proceeding which my apprehensions had suggested, they had scarcely gone further than the probability of some proposition to modify Poyning's Law, and to render the Mutiny Bill biennial. Not that I am prepared to set bounds to the absurdity or wickedness of a few individuals, and indeed it is for the advantage of Government that a violent measure should be started if decidedly reprobated at the first blush. The arguments against Ireland's attempting a separation are equally forcible and obvious, but it must be in an hour of very particular vanity that I can encourage the conceit of adding any thing material to those which must occur to your own good judgement.

Did it fall to my task to treat this subject, my great difficulty would be the rendering the home truths call'd upon by the occasion palatable to the prejudices and the heated imaginations of a popular Assembly. Spacious as the field is, the reasoning perhaps may be reduc'd to the three following Heads:—

The present enviable situation of Ireland in contradistinction to that of any other State.

The physical impossibility as Europe is now constituted of Ireland's existing an independent Government.

And the certainty of the Roman Catholics becoming the ruling religion in consequence of her separation from Gt. Britain.

You are not to learn the advantageous ground upon which your Country now stands or that it is only problematical from a most humiliating doubt whether the Irish are capable of that persevering industry necessary for the availing themselves of the happiness and prosperity which awaits them, and whether persons of moderate property will by vesting it in trade prefer the situation of an opulent merchant to that of a distressed gentleman? However the spirit of England may be depressed by ingratitude and treachery abroad and domestick faction, she is not as yet so far humiliated as to give up her authority in Ireland without a serious struggle, and even should her opposition prove unavailing, some material inconveniencys must be apprehended from her resentment. But, for argument sake we will suppose the emancipation to have been accomplish'd.

It is scarcely to be presum'd that the current expense of the nation could in consequence be reduc'd, the contrary is by far more probable.

The interest of her present debt, trifling as it is comparatively with ours, and the expences of any rational system of Government which she can establish, cannot long be paid without adventitious resources which are only to be obtained by commercial exertions. Her trade can never become a material object but by the acquiring a preference over the manufactures of other nations whose interest must determine them to extinguish that rivalry in the bud if not respectably protected. Such protection should be deriv'd from a maritime force. But can that force be easily established in a Country where the building an additional Revenue Cruiser is almost a deliberation of State?

It will be argued that the military expence may be reduc'd by the Volunteers being substituted for the Regular forces. Will any man soberly contend that those bodys rais'd in the fever of the times, in most instances indeed upon the spur of the occasion from a meritorious spirit of self-defence, but in others by faction and the vanity and emulation of individuals, constituted as they are, can become formidable to an invading enemy, inforce the execution of the laws, and check the thousands of profligate beggars who watch the opportunity of pillage in the interior of the Kingdom. It is indeed most certain that the cordial protection of the disinterested House of Bourbon would officiously meet your wishes, and as certain that such protection must lead to a subjection, to the which her absolute sovereignty would be preferable. The territorial value of Ireland, her proportional inability of resistance and her locality with respect to England and France, render her decidedly dependent upon either the one or the other.

If that assertion is founded, those who wish to enjoy liberty under law and who profess the Protestant Religion will have no great difficulty in determining their election.

That great drain of Irish treasure, the number of absentees, would rather increase than diminish by a change of Government, and every argument which at this time militates against the taxing them would still continue equally conclusive.

As to the third point I should scarcely think it possible to maintain seriously that a connection with France would not sooner or later give lead in Ireland to the Roman Catholics. Every political reasoning must determine that ambitious Nation to encourage religious tenets and principles of Government congenial to her own. Equity also would justify the preference given to the opinions of so decided a majority of the inhabitants.

But let us suppose Ireland establish'd as an independent State, treating upon an equal footing with foreign Nations and not courting any protection. The interior strength of the country could be as nothing, and civil war must be hourly apprehended, if some terms were not made with the Catholics. Conscious of the superiority of their numbers, would they be satisf'd without some share in the government, and when once possess'd of that share, would not those numbers actuated by the acknowleg'd genius of their religion grasp at the whole?

Tho' this is already but too long I must still add a few words. Were any inference to be drawn with respect to the possible independence of Ireland from the existence of the lesser States of Europe such as Venice, Naples, Switzerland, Genoa, Tuscany, &c., it may be obviously answered that some of them are only nominally so, others owe their situation to their insignificance, some to the rivalry of neighbouring Powers, who would not allow the other to make the acquisition, some also to the great policy of Europe.

It is unnecessary to insinuate to an enlightened understanding like yours that if in discussing great national systems full and judicious allowance is not made to the specifick genius of the individuals and every distinguish'd local and relative circumstance of each country, the reasoning will be very erroneous.

(Draft.)

SIR H. CLINTON, KT., to LORD J. P. CLINTON.

1781, Oct. 3 to 11.—That you may understand nearly what Lord Cornwallis's situation has been and is now, I give you a short journal of events as they have turned up.

On the last of August, suspecting Washington's intention of detaching to the southward, I sent information to his Lordship.

On the 2nd September having reason to believe it was certain, I sent messengers with a promise of reinforcement, whenever the Admiral shou'd tell me it cou'd proceed, or if it cou'd not proceed, to make the best diversion I cou'd.

On the 6th received his Lordship's of the 29th, saying that Le Grasse had arrived in the Chesapeak with about 25 sail of the line from the West Indies.

On the same day, sent to his Lordship to inform him that the best way to assist him, was to go to him. That I should do so with 4,000 already embarked, as soon as the Admiral informed me

it was practicable; acquainting his Lordship that the Admiral had 19 sail of the line, and that, by accounts from Europe, Admiral Digby was hourly expected.

On the 13th received information of the action of the 5th.

On the 14th determined in a Council of War that the only way to succour Lord Cornwallis was to go to him, for that nothing cou'd turn Washington from such an object.

On the 17th received the Admiral's letter of the 15th saying that the enemy were masters of the Chesapeak; that he intended to return to York with his shattered Fleet to avoid the Equinox; that he knew nothing of Admiral Digby officially, but hoped that his arrival wou'd enable him to look at the French Fleet.

On the 23rd determined in a Council of Generals that it was their opinion that Lord Cornwallis required immediate succour; that it shou'd be attempted even with risk to fleet and army; and agreed to request a conference with the Admirals on the subject.

On the 23rd received a letter from Lord Cornwallis of the 16th and 17th: in the first he had little to apprehend before the end of October, but in that of the 17th he changes his tone; probably upon hearing that Barras,* not having joined before, had now joined Le Grasse.† And together they were 36 sail of the line: and said if not very soon relieved, I might be prepared for the worst.

On the 24th the Council met and unanimously agreed as soon as the Fleet cou'd be repaired, by joint exertions to endeavour to succour his Lordship, and afterwards to co-operate with him.

While in Council, Admiral Digby arrived with three ships of the Line. As the surest and best means of conveying us, and not being separated from the Fleet, I proposed that the navy should take us on board; which they readily consented to. Upon which messengers were dispatched to Lord Cornwallis, and the greatest probability that we shou'd start on the 5th of October.

On the 29th, finding the Fleet not so forward, I requested another conference. It was there determined amongst other things, that the Fleet wou'd be ready by the 12th, to take us on board. Of this little alteration I informed his Lordship, and let him know that if by accident, the Fleet shou'd be still delayed a little longer, I wou'd start the instant I cou'd. But shou'd he judge that we cou'd not arrive in time, he was at liberty to do any thing he cou'd, to save his Army. I requested his ideas, how he thought we cou'd best form a junction, and gave him mine and the General Officers' if I did not receive his opinion which would of course, determine us.

On the 3rd sent an Officer to Lord Cornwallis to explain.

On the 4th heard from Lord Cornwallis, that he had received mine of the 24th, with great satisfaction, and that if we cou'd arrive in a reasonable time, he cou'd hold out: and that his works were in a tolerable state.

* Louis Comte de Barras.

† François Comte de Grasse, 1723-1788.

On the 11th two Line of Battle Ships arrived from the West Indies, which makes our Fleet 25 sail of the line, and two fifties, with a number of Frigates. 'Tis not a move of choice, but of necessity. If Lord Cornwallis's Army falls, I shou'd have little hopes of seeing British Dominion reestablished in America, as our Country cannot replace that Army. If we do not try to save it, we cannot succeed; if we do we may. Lord Cornwallis is of opinion with us, that the only way to do it, is to go to him, and having formed a junction with him, we shall, if possible attack Washington; or if that is thought impracticable, we shall save as much of Lord Cornwallis's corps as we can, shou'd it be thought right to keep the post of York. I of course go myself, and, if I succeed, I shall resign the command to his Lordship.

When operation in Chesapeak was ordered, I layed before Government the danger I thought it was exposed to, without a permanent superiority at sea. I was promised, if not a superiority, an equality, "to secure those operations." If that is not the case, let Lord Sandwich, Sir George Rodney, and the Minister answer it. Lord Cornwallis was compleatly invested on the York side on the 3rd. He has provisions, with economy, I hope, to the middle of November at least.

11th. A cruel wind stopt us yesterday; we are however all ready to start the first favourable moment. This journal is tolerably correct, your Lordship will shew it to such friends as you judge proper.

EDWARD TIGHE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Oct. 8. Dublin.—When I considered it as probable that questions hostile to the connexion between the two Kingdoms might arise, I judg'd chiefly from those votes and resolutions and addresses which of late have fill'd the newspapers, and from the attempt of last Session by what was call'd the declaratory vote. I had no other grounds. Certainly there have existed for some years past a few short-sighted politicians who affect to consider Ireland merely as a country under the same King with Great Britain, and connected no otherwise than Hanover, &c. To such I alluded. Your few but striking arguments are a sufficient refutation of such silly and unfounded doctrine.

Eden is in great spirits upon this eve of his campain. He has very good assurances, and as far as can be seen at present, very good prospects. Mr. O'Neil is to move the address to the King. Lord C. Fitzgerald to the Lord Lieutenant.

With respect to the pensions of the last year I am convinc'd that they are perfectly understood and exactly discriminated. Not one of them, in my opinion, will be laid to your account. But if any matter shall arise upon that subject which appears to me to reflect in any degree upon your Lordship's conduct, I trust I cannot sit silent unless more able and impartial tongues prevent me, which I am confident will be the case.

My most sincere acknowledgments are due for the paper containing most judicious objections to the idea of Irish independence,

As to Poyning's it is really nothing but a good tub, and therefore should not be parted with. My arm is much out of order and I fear my scrawl is difficult.

SIR H. CLINTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, October 10. New York.—I am honored with your Lordship's letter; in my last I informed you that Le Grasse with 36 sail of the line had taken possession of Chesapeak Bay, and that Washington march'd towards Lord Cornwallis; his Lordship has about 8,000, including sailors, marines, etc.; the 8,000 French, 4 or 5,000 Continentals, and a numerous Militia. Washington broke ground on the 2nd. The only way (in the opinion of *all*) to succour Lord C. is to go to him, his provisions will I hope last till the middle of November with care, his works by the delays of the enemy, he says, are in tolerable good order, his position I believe an exceeding strong one. Admiral Graves has now 25 sail of the line and two fifties. These with 5,000 troops on board will start in a day or two to try by joint exertion to succour Lord Cornwallis by York river (which by the bye the enemy's fleet masks). If the Navy succeed (of the probability of which they of course are the only judges) in their part, ours will I hope not fail.

This is not a move of choice my dear Lord as you will see, but of necessity; if Lord Cornwallis's army falls, I shall have little hope of seeing British dominion re-established in America, as our country cannot replace him and his army. If I succeed in saving his Lordship, I shall if possible bring W. to action, and then resign a command I have long since determined to do the instant it could be done with propriety; the treatment I have *till of late* met with, and the insinuations thrown out by his ministers, some of them published in a rebel paper, are such as no man will submit to serve under; my Lord ———'s approbation of my conduct has been withheld from me too long, it now comes to late. When I was *directed* to hold the Chesapeak and carry on operations there with *all* I could spare from other stations, I observed to the Minister, that if the enemy should be superior for only a few weeks the Corps in Chesapeak would run the greatest risk, I was in answer promised that "Sir G. Rodney should have positive orders to watch La Grasse and to follow him to this coast in time sufficient to cover our operations in Chesapeak," instead of which Sir S. Hood has brought only 13 sail, 3 arrived with Admiral Digby, two this day from Jamaica. If therefore we are reduced to an inferiority of 25 to 36, if the Corps in Chesapeak is risked, nay lost, *il faut vous adresser* to Lord S——h, Sir G. R——y or the M——r. I know nothing of sea moves. If the conflict tho' an unequal one happens at sea, which most think it will, I have all to hope from the *savoir faire* of our Naval Chiefs and our better sailing, if we attempt to force them in any position they may take to cover York river, though we may suffer a little; but there are many circumstances that may give us every hope of success; the army 'tis true may be crippled in either case a little, with

what remains however I will do the best when I am put ashore. I show you, my dear Lord, both sides of our prospect, till we sail of course we look at both, once started only at one. We go in proper good humour with each other, and each determin'd to do his best. I beg my best respects to the Countess. I have enclosed my last letter to Lord C——, either Lord John or Leland will shew it your Lordship.

I hope to pay my respects to you in December. If I save Lord C. you may expect me, if he falls I must wait my fate here. Lt.-Col. Eyre of the 59th, who commanded at the attack on Fort Griswold goes home wounded, and if possible will have the honor to deliver this to your Lordship.

SIR H. CLINTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Oct. 29. South of Chesapeak.—A thousand thanks for your kind letters. Your Lordship will find by my last that we did not sail from New York till the 19th nor arrive off this till the 24th, almost a fortnight too late as Lord Cornwallis I fear capitulated the 17th. His Lordship was lost for want of the naval support under Sir G. Rodney, who we were told was ordered to watch Le Grasse's motions and follow him here to cover our operations in Chesapeak; such has been Lord Cornwallis's fate, and such, my dear Lord, will be the fate, as I have repeatedly told the Minister, of every port if the enemy remains superior at sea.

The French fleet is at anchor in our sight, for such an object as Lord Cornwallis and his corps we should have risked an attack altho' we are only 25 to 36, but having *now* two such objects 'tis not perhaps our business to risk an action, but if the enemy comes out and attacks, which as the wind is fair he may do this day, "*nous ferons notre mieux.*"

EDWARD TIGHE to THE SAME.

1781, November 2. Dublin.—Nothing worthy of being mention'd to your Lordship occur'd in the H. of C., until yesterday when Sir Lucius O'Brien brought forward the Portugal business in spite of the engagement made by Mr. Eden.

Sir Lucius spoke and read treaties, &c., for hours, and then a smart debate came on, upon a question to appoint a Committee to enquire into the trade between Ireland and Portugal.

Isaac Corry* and Fitzgibbon† were the two first that oppos'd this motion. Corry made a speech of eulogium upon Lord Hillsboro. Grattan, Yelverton‡, Bushe§, Ogle, Hussey Burgh and Flood supported the motion. Daly and Brownlow|| were absent.

* Isaac Corry, M.P. for the Borough of Newry.

† John Fitzgibbon, Attorney General in 1783, and afterwards Lord Fitzgibbon and Earl of Clare, and Chancellor.

‡ Barry Yelverton, M.P. for Carrickfergus, afterwards Lord Chief Baron and Lord Avonmore.

§ Gervase Bushe, M.P. for Kilkenny.

|| Rt. Hon. Wm. Brownlow, M.P. for Armagh (City) Co., and a Privy Councillor.

Flood spoke decisively as to measures and himself. Call'd upon the House to support their free trade, and used every means to persuade and to inflame, digress'd upon the Perpetual Mutiny Act and curs'd the authors of it and the Legislature that pass'd it, spoke much of himself and of his office and call'd upon members situated like himself to risque every thing for the sake of establishing that free trade which their resolution and steadiness had obtained.

Eden, tho' highly provok'd by Grattan, was temperate, pertinent and steady.

A little before midnight the house divided.

Ayes for a Committee 44.

Noes 117.

My arm is not in order, and I scrawl abominably which I hope your indulgence will excuse.

Having for some time a habit of giving your Lordship a summary account of such matters I have chosen this opportunity in particular as the question was strong and Mr. Flood very conspicuous.

The business is getting forward in the Committee of Accounts &c. Nothing more has been said as yet upon the subject of Pensions.

The Provost spoke, rather heavily, with the Majority.

SIR H. CLINTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, November 9. New York.—In my last off Chesapeak I told your Lordship my apprehensions for Lord Cornwallis, alas ! they were too well founded, could we have arrived in time we are of opinion we should have succour'd his Lordship by entering York river, at all events by James ; we should have saved part of of his Lordships' Corps perhaps with the loss of part of that under my immediate orders. If the Navy remain superior in these seas, Charlestown tho' it can stand a siege must finally fall, and tho' perhaps the season is too far advanced to attempt this plan at this season, we must have our turn, if the French remain in this country in such naval and land force, and we are not reinforced in proportion, and covered by a fleet. I refer your Lordship to Lords Lincoln and Dalrymple.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1781, November 30. New York.—If Lords Lincoln and Dalrymple should have arrived safe it will be unnecessary for me to say more upon our late misfortune than my letters by them and their information will give your Lordship, but if they should be taken it may be necessary for me to say a few words in answer to Lord Cornwallis' letter of the 20th of October, which, before I had seen his Lordship, out of delicacy I did not chuse to do.

There is but one cause, my dear Lord, perhaps to impute our late great misfortune, the want of promised naval superiority

under Sir G. Rodney, but there are certain implications (to call them by no other name) in Lord Cornwallis' letter which I must take some notice of; from that letter it may be supposed that his Lordship had been compelled by me to take the post at York, that he had represented the defects of the ground, and that of course it was not his Lordship's preference that he was detained there contrary to his own judgement; and that I had likewise *promised* the exertions of the Navy before I was justified in doing so by the resolution of Flag and General officers on the 24th September, which his Lordship received the 29th (many days after General Washington's troops arrived at Williamsburg), that I had promised the Fleet would sail about the 5th of October. Before I ordered the letter to be printed, in a conversation with his Lordship he did not deny that York was his own preference; he owns he never represented any defects in the ground till his letter of the 20th October, written after the capitulation; that I had never promised him the joint exertions of navy and army, till I did so in my letter of the 24th of September; and that in speaking of the probable sailing of the fleet to his succour, he ought to have given my own words, "we have every reason to hope the fleet will start about the 5th of October." As to intrenching tools I have sent to Chesapeak with the different detachments above 3,000, a very great proportion indeed in 6 months; the instant I received a requisition for more I ordered them, but at the time I received it the enemy were in possession of Chesapeak.

Should his Lordship's letter of the 20th of October have made an unfavourable impression in Europe, I shall expect from his Lordship's candour a formal avowal of his sentiments on the above points, for if that shall not be the case I shall depend on my friends to publish such parts of our correspondence as shall set this matter in a proper view.

P.S. His Lordship tells me his letter of the 20th of October was written under great agitation of mind and in great hurry; no man can have felt more for him and his gallant army than their humble servant, no man would have gone greater lengths to have preserved them, and God forbid I should give his Lordship any unnecessary trouble at this time.

EDWARD TIGHE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, November 14. Dublin.—The House rose at four o'clock this morning having negativ'd a motion to bring in heads of a bill to amend, explain, and limit the Army Act.

It is understood that Daly, Bushe and Fitzgibbon are friendly to the Castle. Yet they voted in favor of the motion, and spoke. Ayes 77. Noes 133.

Flood and Burgh seem to be in determin'd opposition. Neither Mr. Conolly nor Mr. Brownlow said any thing, but both, I believe, voted with the Majority.

To-morrow the sugar duties come on and will I conclude take up some time, yet the business of Supply and Ways and Means is more forward by eight or ten days than I have in general known it to be.

Not one word has fallen upon the subject of pensions since the recess of October.

EDWARD TIGHE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Nov. 23. Dublin.—The House of Commons rose between four and five this morning having settled the Sugar duties in the Committee of Ways and Means agreeably to the duties of last Session by 144 to 163.

Mr. Flood, Grattan and Forbes as spiteful as possible, every body else both in and out of the house seemingly in great good humour and reasonable content. I see, both the 'Hibernian' and 'Freeman' give tolerable accounts of the proceedings, therefore I need not attempt to inlarge upon them; suffice it to say that matters go off much more easily than I expected, that the complexion of Parliament is very fair, and the accounts from the Country good and promising.

The cold water thrown in the north upon the resolution framed by the Lawyers' Corps, and carried down in August by Lord C. &c. added to the loyal spirit exhibited upon a rumor of invasion has been of the greatest service to Government. They have now friendly to their measures not only every family of consequence, but almost every individual worth obtaining. The Ponsonbys, Daly and Bushe are among the last who have flock'd to the standard. It is said that his Grace of L. is to succeed to the Ordnance very soon. Daly is certainly to succeed Lord G. and I know not what is to be done for the Ponsonbys or for Bushe. The bottom seems to be too large.

Jack Hamilton is very well. We often speak of your Lordship with true regard and gratitude. He writes well and he promises me to send you a full budget whenever the recess commences, which is expected a week before Christmas. Mr. Conolly is seldom in the House, I saw him there the day before yesterday for a short time and had the pleasure of conversing with him.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to SIR H. CLINTON.

1781, December 8.—Your letters and the several communications which you so obligingly directed to be made, have reached me. You could not doubt of my being persuaded that your attention to the publick service had been equal to your ability. Tho' every man will form some opinion upon critical events, yet my information is not so general or so compleat as to justify my risking any opinion with respect to the whole of the land operations to the southward. But with less scruple it may be asserted that the delay of our Fleet in coming upon your coast was unpardonable and the primary cause of the present calamity. Your return to England must now necessarily be delayed.

The preserving some Port in America, particularly the most important one which is your immediate charge, and a greater marine exertion is our only chance for salvation.

If America (especially connected with France) becomes independent, we may possibly be allow'd to eat bread and beef in our little island; but imperial sway, national dignity, ostentation, and luxury must with our commerce be annihilated.

I attended the opening of the Parliament and immediately after returned to Blickling. London you will conceive could not be very agreeable, tho' despondency in the city, circumstances considered, was far short of my expectation. The interposition of the Courts of Vienna and Petersburg to produce a pacification with Holland and some probability of its being successful has kept up the spirits of the money'd and mercantile men, and the stocks are consequently much higher than might have been presumed.

I have received no authentick intelligence since my leaving Town. Mr. C. Thompson was not then arrived; when we meet we cannot but speak of you with esteem and affection. I flatter myself that this place will, hereafter, be most familiar to you. Leland will probably be with me at Christmas, it is almost certain, as a lady who has inspired him with a most profound sentimental passion will be of my party.

(Draft.)

LORD G. GERMAIN to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Dec. 10. Patishall.—I shall take care to obey your commands by the first opportunity by sending your Lordship's letter to Sir H. Clinton.

I do not wonder that you should prefer residing in the country to the living in town, when the distress of the public and the triumph of the factions can create no pleasing ideas in a liberal mind like your Lordship's. On Wednesday the Opposition make their great effort when the army estimates came under consideration, what support Administration may meet with I know not, but I am very sure that your ideas for the carrying on the war in America are the most proper to be adopted under our present circumstances, but the misfortune is that it is impracticable to explain in publick what must be confined to the executive power, but I hope the measure may be so convey'd to individuals as to influence their conduct.

Much conversation about changes, if any negotiation of that sort is carrying on it is unknown to me, but as I never enquire about it, I may be late in my intelligence. The mediation of Russia is accepted here, and I conclude it will be received in Holland with equal satisfaction, tho' the forms of their Government may delay their answer.

The Brest Fleet had not sail'd the 29th of November. Letters from Paris of the 3rd of this month say it was expected the fleet had sail'd on the 1st of December, tho' no account could have then arrived, I have heard from others that it was not in such forwardness. I hope the last account may be true that

Admiral Kempenfeldt may have a chance of falling in with them, and that Sir G. Rodney may arrive at the Leeward Islands before them. All accounts from Ireland agree that the publick business and the encouragement of trade, particularly of the Fisheries are carrying on with dispatch and with a most respectable majority notwithstanding the violence of your friend Mr. Flood; it must be some satisfaction to your Lordship to see your plans adopted, and that you represented the merit and demerit of individuals in the true light, tho' the awards and punishments were left to be distributed by your successor. Your attention to me upon all occasions demands my sincere thanks, it is certain however pleased I may be in seeing my daughter marry'd to a man of her own choice, yet it would have been an additional satisfaction to me if Mr. Herbert's residence had been in England.

Sir C. Thompson is very well, but his ideas upon our present situation do not give me much encouragement.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the BISHOP OF CLOYNE.

1781, Dec. 10. Blickling.—A just tribute of gratitude ought to have been earlier paid for the interesting information so agreeably conveyed in your favour of the 14th of November, but I delayed acknowledging it till I could write from London in order to give you in return some English intelligence. A very material event indeed met my arrival there, but it was of such a calamitous magnitude as for a time incapacitaty'd me and every feeling man from any power of digested reasoning. After having paid my duty to his Majesty and to Parliament which in our House (before Christmas) is usually confined to the first day, I return'd to this place, the tranquillity of which has restor'd me to some composure, tho' nothing can prevent most painfull reflection upon the future prospects of this Empire but a partial removal, at least, of that gloom which now looms upon us from every quarter. As to the scene in London, the distress was really universal at the fashionable end of the town. The countenances of Ministers, Maccaronis, tradesmen, artisans, and painted ladys all expressed it; his Majesty however, and it became him, appeared compos'd and it was asserted that some Patriots amidst their lamentations for the ruin of their country and their execrations of the authors could not from discerning eyes conceal a latent satisfaction. This observation is not my own.

The city had just before receiv'd intelligence of a pacification with Holland, at which they were so greatly elated that notwithstanding Lord Cornwallis's misfortune the Stocks are at least two *per cent.* higher than they were a month since. This rumor has since gain'd ground. There certainly is something in agitation with the Dutch, to whom Catherine the 2^d has offered rather a peremptory mediation. Our Ministers seem to have determined upon one judicious measure, that of increasing our Navy to the utmost, such efforts may do much, but we shall scarcely extricate ourselves with any degree of dignity from our distress, unless the other Powers of Europe will see the most

self evident of all propositions that the destruction of the British Empire must ultimately place universal Monarchy in the House of Bourbon.

I do not mean that the French will overrun the Continent, but the Empire of the Ocean and all commercial superiority must be theirs. It will inevitably rivet those chains with which the pride of Spain has submitted to be bound.

I speak without authentick authority but there is an appearance as if the Courts of Vienna and Petersburg would not suffer England to be completely undone. What an humiliating consolation, and how different from my feelings when I set out on the Russian Embassy* and the name of an Englishman commanded deference in every quarter of the globe.

Probably as we no longer are equal to an offensive land war in America we shall content ourselves with labouring to preserve the most material ports. If the colonys are completely emancipated, and remain connected with France, there needs no particular spirit of divination to foresee, that our West and East Indies, Newfoundland, fishery commerce and naval power must be lost. But having suggested the worst there is a becoming and usefull spirit in hoping the best. Some reports prevail with respect to a partial change of Ministry, such ideas will ever arise from publick distress. There has been however lately a mildness in the mode of some members of opposition which might be construed into their thinking they saw right. The times require that his Majesty should have a Minister who, supreme over every department, should plan and be responsible for the whole.

I am most happy to hear that the charitable institution to the which your better judgment led me to contribute go's on well.

(Draft.)

COLONEL LELAND to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Dec. 15. The Tower.— . . . The place where I date my letter announces my present situation, and will apologize to your Lordship for my not being able to accept of your hospitable and friendly invitation. It would have given me sincere pleasure to have added to the Christmas party at Blickling, and partaking of its *agrémens*. Here I am to be confin'd till the 29th instant at 10 o'clock in the morning, after my release some domestic business will oblige me to return into Sussex for a short time; but I shall with great pleasure drink the Queen's health in Bond Street on the 10th of January. Had I wanted any inducement to carry me to Blickling, the object you mention being there upon whom my eyes have so long dwelt with pleasure and will still do so, would certainly have been a great one. I beg your Lordship will assure that object of my most kind and sincere good wishes, and how sorry I am I cannot be the bearer of them myself.

* In 1762.

Lord Rawdon was at the Levée yesterday, where I saw him ; nothing in particular transpir'd but that no officers of note fell during the siege of York Town ; a Major Cochrane was killed, who had escaped thro' the French Fleet in the night and arriv'd safe with his dispatches from Sir Henry Clinton to Lord Cornwallis, together with two engineers. Two hours after he landed he received his doom by a cannon shot taking his head off. An eligible mode when such an event is decreed.

Lord C. is hourly expected, any news that reaches me you may depend upon hearing, and in return I shall be happy to be inform'd that the circle at Blickling are as happy as I know they have the means of being.

P.S. General Rainsford a few days embark'd for the Continent *à la sourdine* in order to proceed to Leghorn from whence he is to throw himself into St. Phillips—it is said the other three don't accord together—and to remove the possibility still further of the command devolving upon a foreigner.

SIR H. CLINTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Dec. 29.—As I had the honor to write to your Lordship by the 'Robust,' I have now only to request you will read two pamphlets, which Mr. Carter will send you. I do not wish that the contents of these pamphlets should be made publick, Lord Cornwallis' conduct on his arrival in England will I hope make that unnecessary, otherwise I shall depend on my friends to do me that justice they, I am sure, must think I deserve ; from the Minister I am I fear to expect nothing but *illtreatment*. Lord Cornwallis tells me his letter was written in a hurry and under great agitation of mind, I felt for him and his gallant army, and had also my moments of agitation when I embarked my little army on board an inferior fleet, and put the fate of this war upon so very unequal a conflict as it must have been in every respect, at least till I had formed a junction with Lord Cornwallis. I expect to be attacked early in the Spring, and tho' I do not ambition this command more than I did, as your Lordship will believe, I should be sorry to abandon this army at a time tis reduced so low and threaten'd, but the instant that it is properly reinforced, I hope to have leave to resign it. This command my dear Lord is sufficiently arduous with all the support that a Minister can give me, what must it be when I am neglected, and illtreated, every opinion but mine taken, any plan but mine adopted, I am forced into operation planned by others, promised support, and unfortunate from that being wantonly withheld from me. I am sure my good Lord you will forgive me if I still harp upon that letter of Lord Cornwallis, he says "that his intrenching tools did not much exceed 400 when he began his works the latter end of August," whereas by a formal return of his chief engineer he had on the 23rd of August 992, but if he had not 20 *ce n'était pas ma faute* for I had sent to Chesapeak this year above 3,000. His Lordship did not hint at the least want till the 23rd of August, which I received the 31st, two days after the

French were in Chesapeake. I should not have been surprised if his Lordship or his engineer had not known how many there were at the close of the siege, but at the beginning of his works he certainly must; why he was so incorrect I cannot guess, I ought not to suppose, he had in that or any other part of his letter, any intention of casting blame upon the innocent, and yet by implications and misstating of some facts it may I fear have that appearance. I fear I shall not have time to write to my good friend Sir Charles Tompson, pray give him the pamphlets to read, altho' his friend A——s does not appear to have been quite so consistent as for the sake of my country, and myself indeed I wish he had, but we have nothing to blame but 75 (*sic*).

COLONEL LELAND to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1781, Dec. 30th.—It may be no news for you to hear that the Duke of Newcastle has resigned for Sir Henry Clinton, being able no longer to withstand the calumnious insinuations thrown out (and cruelly encouraged) against his conduct. He demands a public enquiry, which I am sure will end in his justification—an enquiry, the usual stigma (at least meant as such) that has obscured the pretensions of every Commander-in-Chief in that unhappy country to military fame!—that of our friend is secure from danger. The *ton* of the Court I find is *not* to applaud him; I have seen your relation and neighbour but once (very lately), and consider him as an unerring barometer. I have seen and known so much within the few years that have passed, that, with the sensibility of mind which I very much suffer under, a very little would compel me to renounce public society. But these are times that call upon every individual to lend a hand—and mine, if worthy of acceptance, shall not be wanting. I find from Mr. Tomlinson, whom I met to-day, that you have wanted an American general to repel the enemy from your woods; a few riflemen would do more good than the justices' warrants. I am released from the Tower and shall go into Sussex for a few days. Allow me to request that you will accept of my sincere good wishes and also present them to the party at Blickling, regretting that I cannot make one. . . .

Before I quitted the Tower, your friend V. had been often with Laurens* and his release was daily expected to take place from his very infirm state of health.

ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN† to THE SAME.

1782, Jan. 18. The Palace.—(On Lord Buckinghamshire's recommendation has collated Mr. St. Lawrence, Lord Howth's son to the Union of Timolin.) I condole with your Lordship

* Late President of Congress in America, and taken prisoner in September, 1781, on his way to Europe to conclude a treaty with Holland. (*See Annual Register for 1781, p. 142.*)

† Dr. Robert Fowler, created Bishop of Killaloe in 1771, Archbishop of Dublin in 1778.

most sincerely on our fatal losses in America, on our more recent ones of St. Eustatia and St. Martin, and on the very gloomy prospect of our national affairs. How happy ought we of this kingdom to think ourselves and how thankful to Providence for having as yet scarce felt the least calamity of war! . . . Old Dr. Clements* was buried this day with great parades. The city has not yet fixed on a successor, but doubtless they will endeavour to choose one who will invariably oppose (as usual) the measures of Government.

. . . I shall rejoice most sincerely to hear . . . that your Lordship's important services here have at length been amply rewarded. . . .

SIR H. CLINTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

[1782] Jan. 25. New York.—My letters by the *Robust* and *Europe* will have said all I shall say upon our late great misfortune. By every symptom from every intelligence we are to expect a foreign armament here early in the spring, should it be so and we are not timely relieved our situation may become critical, *mais nous ferons notre mieux*. I have desired Mr. Carter to send your Lordship two pamphlets. I do not wish to attack any body, but I must not be wantonly attacked. Pray read my correspondence with the two admirals, recollect what has been said in publick, and then tell me, my good Lord, if that has not been the case. The 10th article of Lord Cornwallis's Capitulation has occasioned great discontent among the loyalists, the principle of discrimination is certainly unwise in such a war. The word *punish*, too, implies guilt, but as all the world must do Lord Cornwallis the justice to say he has on every occasion protected the loyalists, and that very article was framed to excuse their persons and property, I am surprised so much is said of it. I have been obliged to send very full instructions to the different ports, and General Leslie's Proclamation shews what is necessary to be done there, I hope these will have the effect we wish for. The defection of the militia and loyalists in general as well within our ports as without will be most injurious to the King's affairs. Your Lordship will believe I am not more in love with command than I was, but I have not the least idea of quitting it in the threaten'd state of these ports. My line is very inadequate to the defence of them, even against a rebel force, and we were masters of the sea. The Minister, forgetting the great detachments I have sent to the southward, often overrates my numbers here altho' I send him regular returns. That my friends may have it in their power to set him right I have sent duplicates of those returns to them. Your Lordship no doubt has seen a letter of Lord G. G. to me published in a rebel Paper, I should have quitted the command immediately on receipt of that letter and some others of the same tenor about that time, but I could not then with propriety do it, and altho' the Minister changed his

* W. Clements, M.D., was M.P. for the city of Dublin and King's Professor of Physick for Trinity College.

tone soon after, I had resolved if I had succeeded in my attempt to succor Lord Cornwallis to have resigned the command to him, nor can I serve with honor or satisfaction under such a M——r.

The *Hermione* is arrived in Chesapeake with £350,000 for W——.

Captain Sage of the Royal Artillery will have the honor of delivering this; he was with Lord C. at York and has the only survey of the ground.

SIR H. CLINTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1782, February 16.—Altho' I am almost blind I will not employ the hand of a friend. Sir G. Rodney is a bold man to say he wrote to me, he had not even the good manners to acknowledge the receipt of my letters on service; he informed Admiral Graves, 'tis true, that his suspicions agreed with ours, that La Grasse intended to visit us in the hurricane months, and he faithfully promised to come before him, or at least follow him to this coast, why he did not he can best tell. When Lord G. Germain and Lord Cornwallis forced me into operation in Chesapeake the Minister told me that Sir G. Rodney had most precise orders to come to this coast the instant La Grasse left the Leeward Islands, which was I believe the 4th of July, instead of which Sir George brushed this coast about the 8th September with 4 sail, and sent 4 sail more to Jamaica, and 14 here with Sir S. Flood, convinced, 'tis presumed (as Sir Samuel was), that La Grasse could not bring more than 16 sail. Unfortunate campaign! If the West India fleet had not been wantonly withheld from us, it would have terminated at least without disgrace, but no more of that.

BISHOP OF CLOYNE to THE SAME.

1782, Feb. 20. Dublin.—As the enclosed Resolutions of the Volunteers assembled at Dungannon made a good deal of impression on my mind, I thought they might engage tho' not *gratify* your curiosity. The paper will speak for itself. The few I have heard mention it think it calm and moderate. For myself, I like it the less for that reason. If it had more of violence and passion, I should fear it less. It partakes the coolness of my late acquaintance, Dr. Franklin, and I am persuaded was not penned at Dungannon. The resolutions relative to Papists never originated there; but any allies are welcome to strengthen the party. Grattan and Flood (particularly the former) are foremost in support of Gardiner's Bill which comes on this evening for repeal of the Penal Laws. Great as our majorities are within doors these Congresses without will probably give employment to Administration not of the most pleasing kind. If any further progress is made by these Volunteer Legislators, your Lordship may depend on hearing the earliest account of it, as I know how deeply you must feel interested in the welfare of this kingdom to which you have so eminently contributed.

Mr. Conolly, to whom I shewed the enclosed, looked very cross and foretold mischief which yet I hope will never happen.

Lady Louisa has lately met with an accident by a fall, which might have broke her leg, but has only left her a little lame.

LORD TOWNSHEND to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1782, Feb. 21. House of Lords, past three.—I came to town to-day to meet Lord Cornwallis, his Lordship having requested me to move for copies of four letters from him to Sir Henry Clinton, which he finds are not received at the Secretary of State's Office, and which he thinks are very material to him, of which he has copies and can authenticate.

As your Lordship is very justly attentive to Sir Henry Clinton, I thought it right to acquaint your Lordship of this request of my relation. Lord Cornwallis has already mentioned the business to Mr. Knox. The Chancellor is not yet come down to the House, and it will probably be some time before I shall make this motion.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1782, Feb. 26. Blackheath.—The letters required, which are declared by Lord Cornwallis not to be before the House, are:—

1. From Lord Cornwallis to Sir Henry Clinton, dated Portsmouth, 24 July, 1781.

2nd. York Town, 16 August, 1781.

3rd. Do. 20 August, 1781.

4th. Do. 22 August, 1781.

That from Portsmouth was acknowledged by Sir Henry Clinton in a letter of 2nd August.

THE SAME to THE SAME.

1782, Feb. 21. "Peers," near 5.—The motion for the Papers Lord Cornwallis wished for is put off, another mode of bringing them before the House being suggested, of which I daresay Lord Cornwallis will with pleasure give you notice.

Notes on the Clinton-Cornwallis Controversy. By Sir Henry Clinton. "The enclosures are to be made use of or not, as my friends shall judge proper."

A printed pamphlet (referred to in Sir Henry Clinton's of the 25th Jan., 1782) containing "Correspondence between his Excellency, General Sir Henry Clinton, K.B., and Lt.-General Earl Cornwallis."* This is annotated in MS. by Sir H. Clinton. The first letter is from Sir Henry Clinton, dated 8 July, 1781, New York. The last is also by him of the 2nd and 10th of December, 1781, New York.

"Annotations for Lord Cornwallis's Correspondence." This contains 33 MS. notes on the above controversy.

* This correspondence is elsewhere published.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to SIR H. CLINTON.

1782, March 4.—Your letters and several interesting communications have been delivered to me. Tho' you may have thought me lately rather an inattentive correspondent, your friends must have informed you that I have been in no degree unmindfull of any circumstance here which might in the least affect you. To the best of my judgment the present enquiry will end in nothing, but whatever turn it may take the investigation of that part of the business in which you are implicated cannot but lend to your honor. The opinion of the publick in general seems to be, that, as well some of your friends as those of Lord Cornwallis have marked too much sollicitude. The real object of the enquiry is deem'd to be an attack upon the Admiralty. The present interior confusion of this country is equal to the multiplyd calamitys of the war. The nation have no confidence in the Administration and full as little, perhaps less, in the Opposition. Unhappily England bankrupt in genius as well as other resources do's not offer one man (we have been ruined by distinct Department Ministers) capable of preserving the Empire. An exuberancy of declamatory eloquence is to be found in either House of Parliament. But an individual where experience, judgment, integrity, sound discretion unite is not the produce of this season.

You ought to felicitate yourself upon the appointment of a successor. I think well of Sir Guy Carleton, yet should in every light have lamented the exchange had there existed any longer a probability of your being supported by a force equal to your spirit and ability. Lady Buckingham will rejoice in seeing you. Nor can there be a doubt of your reception being in general such as the man can claim who has exerted himself in all which depended upon him to maintain the honour, dignity, and authority of his country.

(Draft.)

THOMAS CONOLLY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1782, March 10. Castletown.—You could not have disposed of "Runner" in a better manner than you have done and I make no doubt but that he will carry Lady Howe very well. I am only sorry that by Louisa and me forgetting to answer your letters upon his subject you have kept a useless horse so long.

I know you do not like to hear unpleasant news and I could send you none from hence that would have pleased a person of your quick feelings and anxiety for those you love, I have therefore on purpose been silent. I shall only say that the expenses of this Administration as far as promises go, for we have not yet got the Bill, has not produced a better effect with the Nation, the Parliament, and the Volunteers than the more honourable and economical system adopted by yourself; and I much fear that Government to-morrow will think themselves obliged to give way and concur with Mr. Yelverton's motion for "quieting

possessions held under English Acts of Parliament," which will lead to declaratory resolutions after the recess, which they will then not be able to stop, as the instructions from Grand Juries and Volunteers will be so numerous and compulsory. The natural consequences of this you can foresee as well as any man, Poyning's, Mutiny Bill, etc., must be given up, and all will be sett down to the Mutiny of Dungannon, a mutiny that has been fostered by the Patriots, by professors of patriotism in both kingdoms, and which would never have existed had the resolutions of the House of Commons in your time and the Address to the Lord Lieutenant been complied with.

This is an engine that for the future will always be made use of here till Great Britain is strong enough to support this Government and her own, and God knows when that day will come.

We propose being in London if the Congress at Dungannon and the Parliament will permit me in first week in May, and I will attend Caroline as a chaperon in Kensington Gardens when she is not more agreeably provided with one. Loves to her saucy face and likewise to dear little Emily whom it is impossible to forget.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the BISHOP OF CLOYNE.

1782, March 27.—Neither indolence nor the want of leisure have prevented my writing, but the train of melancholy ideas relative to this devoted Empire which still succeeding in my mind must unavailingly flow from my pen, rendering my letters equally unpleasing to the composer and the reader.

It is not enough that France, Spain, Holland and America should unnaturally unite for the annihilation of England, that the shortsighted Court of Petersburg and the ungratefull House of Austria should persevere in the coldest neutrality. But Ireland also, tho' now oblig'd in the extreme, must augment her embarrassments and aggravate her distress. Yet let your patriots indulge what flattering day dreams they may, experience will fully prove that independence cannot be maintained with a most limited revenue, or unrestrained commerce asserted without a frigate. Can they suppose that when they got rid of the remaining phantom of English shackles (it is no more) and that the triumphant fleet of the House of Bourbon sails unmolested through either channel, that the Western Ports of Ireland will be permitted to meet the trade of French America, or that the infant fishery which it was my cordial wish to cherish can either be carry'd to material effect with exclusive advantage to their countrymen?

If hereafter England, Ireland and Scotland should become provinces to France, an idea scarcely now so improbable as our present situation was a very short period since, Ireland will scarcely prove the object of predilection, and when the political insinuation and old connection of your Northern neighbour are consider'd, possibly 'La Garde Ecossaise' will be prefer'd to

‘La Brigade d’Irelande.’ This reasoning may appear superficial and trivial yet it flows from a heart warmly zealous for the interests of England and Ireland.

The change of ministry has made no alteration in our fortune and the intelligence from the West Indies, tho’ arising from no error of theirs, has tarnished the trappings of our new Governors.

Being neither in the councils of the setting or of the rising suns my information cannot be deem’d sterling, but it is surmis’d that you will have a new Lord Lieutenant, and that the Duke of Portland, if such is his inclination, will have the preference. Poor Irwine is reckon’d amongst those who are to retire, the loss of his Irish emoluments will be a severe blow to that liberal and most well tempered man. Mr. Conolly’s intended English journey is a pleasing reflection to me. I wish you were of the party, as it will ever be a satisfaction to me, either in a publick or a private light, to avail myself of your excellent understanding.

(Draft.)

JOHN FOSTER* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1782, May 27.—Our House met to-day. The Duke of Portland came in state as on the opening of a session and made the enclosed speech.

Mr. Grattan, seconded by Mr. Brownlow, moved the enclosed Resolution for an address to his Majesty. Mr. Ogle, seconded by Mr. James Stewart, moved an address of thanks to his Grace.

On Mr. Grattan’s Motion the Recorder objected to the paragraph, stating that when “gratified at these particulars, no constitutional question between the two nations will exist which can interrupt their harmony,”—as it pledged the House against ever agitating any constitutional question. Mr. Flood and Mr. David Walsh supported him. On the other side it was contended that an explicit declaration of our perfect content, and a final adjustment of every constitutional question was necessary; that the paragraph did not extend to questions not existing, etc. Finding all the house against them, Mr. Flood declared he would not interrupt unanimity. Mr. Walsh said the same, and the Recorder persisted; but on many entreaties being used to him and Mr. Fitzpatrick rising to hope that if they did not feel and mean themselves to be pledged they would divide, as he could not otherwise tell the real sense of the house and his object was a final settlement and compact. Walsh declared he would divide. Mr. Flood retired, and on the division there were 24 ‘Ayes,’ and the Tellers—*i.e.* Mr. Walsh and the Recorder—were the only ‘Noes.’

After the addresses Mr. Grattan moved a Vote of Credit for £100,000 to raise seamen. He stated it sufficient for 20,000, and it was referred. I wished it to be a resolution for 20,000 seamen specifically; and then to have voted the sum necessary.

* In 1785 Chancellor of the Exchequer in Ireland.

Never was a nation more apparently satisfied and content, and I trust the wisdom of Britain will meet its just reward in our perfect affection and support. Mr. Bagnal is to move on Wednesday to have an estate purchased and house built for Mr. Grattan, the great deliverer, benefactor, etc. Invidious suggestions would insinuate that the Recorder is disappointed of being a Judge and Mr. Walsh of being Solicitor General.

Mr. Grattan, Yelverton, Burgh and the Chancellor are the private confidential men. . . . As it was near eleven when we broke I fear being late for the post.

JAMES BROWNE* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1782, June 27. Sackville St., Dublin.—After the kindness with which you were pleased to honour me during your Administration in this kingdom, I should feel myself unpardonable if I could be guilty of any want of attention to you upon any occasion ; and I fear I might be thought neglectful if I failed to communicate to you the manner of my losing the office of Prime Serjeant which you had been pleased to confer on me.

Immediately on the arrival of the Duke of Portland in this kingdom, rumour gave out that our new Lord Lieutenant would make vast changes here, would proscribe pretty generally all who had been attached to former Governments, would throw himself wholly into the hands of what was called the Opposition. Accordingly soon after, as it were one of the first acts of his Grace's Administration, I (amongst others) without any kind of previous notice received an official letter acquainting me that my office was granted to another and that his Majesty had no further immediate occasion for my service. I acquiesced, made no reply.

But my nephew, Lord Altamont, making my cause his own, directly wrote to his Grace and requested to know what offence or fault could have given cause for this treatment of his nearest relation. The Duke was pleased to answer him that he knew not of any offence given by or fault alledged against me, but that it had been thought necessary for his Majesty's service to restore Mr. Burgh to that office which he had formerly filled with such ability, and it was not at all meant thereby to throw any slight on me or on him or on his family.

Lord Altamont replied that I had never sought for that office till Mr. Burgh had resigned it, and that my removal without any fault even alledged against me was so evident an injury as he could not be insensible of or patient under and therefore he must beg leave to resign his Government of the County of Mayo.

Since that time the Chief Baron of the Exchequer died and I am very well assured that the intention of Government here is to make Mr. Burgh, Chief Baron, and Counsellor Thos. Kelly (a gentleman of great eminence of the Bar, but not in Parliament) Prime Serjeant in his room.

* Hon. James Browne. M.P. for Borough of Tuam.

How such conduct can be for his Majesty's service is beyond my sagacity to discover. Here are two very high offices in the Law disposed of and what strength is acquired? Mr. Burgh's vote and abilities (to gain which one change was made) are lost in the House of Commons, nothing gained there in his room; on the contrary any little weight of my family in Parliament there has been very uncommon pains taken to lose. It consists only of one vote in the Lords and at present only two in the Commons, but at the next election to rise to its usual number of three in that House; whence one might compute that this change might on any division make the difference of seven voices in the Commons and two in the House of Lords against Government.

Whether the other changes lately made in the law will have the same effect, I shall not take upon me to say; but I think I might aver with some confidence that a few more *such* changes would overturn any Government I remember in Ireland.

Your Lordship will I am sure excuse the trouble I thus presume to give you, since it really proceeds only from that regard and attention which I shall ever pay to one whom I am so highly indebted to, that no changes can ever make me forget the esteem and attachment with which I am, etc., etc.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the HONOURABLE J. BROWNE.

1782, July 7. Exeter.—Your letter reached me at this place, where I have stopped for four and twenty hours in my road to an estate which my Irish residence and other circumstances have prevented my visiting for several years.

My concern for your late disappointment is in some small degree alleviated by a selfish satisfaction in finding you do justice to my lasting regard to those gentlemen whose support gave strength and credit to my Administration. My good wishes to the late Ministry of this country could not but be sensibly affected by the disappointments of my engagements to many meritorious Irish gentlemen, by which they disgraced and clouded my retreat. With the present Administration I have no connection. These circumstances must evidently deprive me of all confidential political communications, and the motives which determine measures either abroad or at home must in consequence be unknown to me.

But it is impossible for me to learn without surprise, that however it might have been deemed expedient to change his Majesty's Law-Servants in Ireland, the arrangement was not settled in a mode to avoid the disobliging so able and meritorious a gentleman as yourself and so respectable a family as Lord Altamont's.

(Draft.)

MR. CONOLLY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, April 17. Castletown.—Although this kingdom at present affords no news except riots at Kilkenny and other parts

in respect to the admition (*sic*) of fencible regiments, as they are christen'd, into their towns, and that I shall, I hope, be in London by this day fortnight to kiss your hands, yet I cannot help expressing an earnest wish that you may return here to us as our Viceroy, for stay our present Chief Governor will not, being so incensed at the coalition between North and Fox.

I asked him the other day whether he would have thought himself bound to resign if Lord Melbourne had succeeded in his flirtation with Lord North before Christmas and had brought him in. To this I could get no reply, tho' it is evident to everyone that the separation of the Whigs upon my Lord Rockingham's death created the necessity of a Coalition between two of the three contending parties.

I was always, as you know, a croaker, but the affairs of England have turned out more desperate than I ever imagined; nothing but a very strong, wise and upright Administration can preserve you from troubles which if once begun on your side will immediately kindle here, tho' Paddy has got everything he has asked, and more I am certain than is good for him, as I think it will be some time before his new Constitution will begin to work to his expectation. We shall want a man of business, prudence and experience, and as I think you perfectly answer in all these points and I can see no other person half so fitt that has any chance of coming, I must wish for the good of both kingdoms that you may be the man. Our loves to Caroline and saucy Emily.

LUKE GARDINER to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, April 27. Phoenix Park.—(Has received so many civilities from him that he makes no apologies for troubling him now.) The General Election approaches and the Archbishop of Dublin has a very strong interest in this county. I have perceived of late that his Grace has treated me with some degree of coolness, the cause of which it is not necessary to mention to your Lordship, but can only assure you that it did not proceed from any improper conduct on my part. If your Lordship should think proper to write to him on this subject in my favour, I think it would have the greatest weight and it would confer an additional obligation on me.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN.

1783, May 5.—His friendship for Mr. Gardiner and his opinion of his deservings urge him to mention that Lord Buckinghamshire's wishes are earnest for Mr. Gardiner's success. . . .

THE SAME to MR. GARDINER.

1783, May 5.—Communicating to him the gist of the contents of the preceding letter, with his own wishes for his success.

The ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

(Private and confidential.)

1783, May —. The Palace.—I had last week the honour of your Lordship's very obliging letter desiring me to interest myself in favour of a man who has not the least pretention to any civility from me, he having shewn me none, but on the contrary disrespect, and in some instances marked it very strongly. He is besides considered by many of the Clergy as the avowed promoter of every project which can injure the rights of our Established Church, or advance those of any (other) religious persuasion. Such a man therefore, your Lordship may be sure, cannot be countenanced either by me or my friends. And his soliciting your Lordship to apply to me in his favour, without any previous application to me, can be considered by me in no other light than looking on me as a cypher, and thus adding a fresh insult to those he has repeatedly shewn me ; it plainly avowing that altho' he was conscious his behaviour to me did not entitle him to the most distant hopes of my countenance, yet being armed with Irish effrontery he wou'd wrest it from me by applying to your Lordship, whom he hoped I wou'd not refuse. Nor wou'd I refuse your request cou'd I consistently with the feelings of a gentleman and man of honour grant it. But his behaviour having been so flagrant I flatter myself your Lordship will highly approve of my determination to assist his opponents. At the same time allow me to assure you that I shall be happy to oblige you (as I have always) whenever I can do it consistently with honour. I shou'd have immediately done myself the honour of answering your Lordship's very obliging letter had I not been fully employed in my troublesome Visitation. My best wishes attend all your Lordship's family. Lord Temple is very impatient to leave us ; he told me this day Lord Northington was to set out for Ireland on the 26th, and he hoped to be released from his shackles on the 1st of June.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the REV. MR. ELLIOT.

1783, —.—I do not live in such habits with your new Lord Lieutenant as to render the solliciting any favour of him however trivial either natural or easy to me. He is generally deemed a man of sense ; the gentleman appointed to be his secretary is highly esteem'd, and from my own observation seems able and well-informed.

They are both of them new in business, but if my Irish intelligence is correct will have early opportunitys of acquiring experience. Lord Temple is thought by those who know him well to be particularly fortunate in his recall,* as in a twelve-month those flowers might have faded which now will strew the path of his retreat.

* The Earl of Northington was appointed to succeed Earl Temple in the Viceroyalty on the 3rd May, 1783.

Ireland in my opinion sustained a loss in the Duke of Portland. Without any apparent brilliancy, his understanding is sound and direct, his principles most honourable and his intentions excellent. Peace has in no degree remov'd the anxiety of thinking men. Connections have been so much broken, faith and professions violated, public character so invidiously analysed, every species of subordination so industriously reprobated and the minds of the multitude so decidedly vitiated that the establishing an administration to govern steadily at home and to negotiate respectably with foreign powers cannot be the operation of a short period.

(*Draft.*)

The EARL OF ALTAMONT to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, June 6. Westport House.—(Requesting Lord Buckinghamshire's intercession with Lord North to further his claims to the Ribband of the new Irish Order.*)

The stigma thrown upon my nearest friends by the Duke of Portland avowedly for their support of Lord North's Administration gives me a claim upon his Lordship.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the EARL OF ALTAMONT.

1783, June 20.—(Is obliged to refuse his request.) Since my return to England I have had no communication with Lord North excepting an exchange of the most distant civility.

Lord Altamont's letter to Lord North was therefore sealed unread and delivered at Lord North's house.

The BISHOP OF CLOYNE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, Sept. 21. Cloyne.—If Mr. Conolly has not undertaken to explain to your Lordship the circumstances which prevented me from writing for so long a time, I could scarcely have mustered up resolution to write even now, but from the mere awkwardness of breaking, should have protracted a silence, at the recollection of which I am equally amazed and ashamed. As he has mentioned, I will not dwell on the several severe accidents which affected my body and mind to such a degree as disqualified me to think on business the most necessary, or to enjoy what at another time would have been most pleasurable. I could not otherwise have permitted a correspondence to be interrupted from which I derived so much honour as well as pleasure. More than once I was in hopes of having it in my power to begin a letter with an account of my having obeyed your Lordship's commands in favour of Mr. Ogle, but the clergy appear to me as long lived as I do to some of them; the effect I flatter myself of our regularity.

This week produces no events, or worse than none; for your Lordship will be sorry to hear that your friend, Lord Shannon's, general interest is nearly overset by the democratical spirit now

* That of St. Patrick. (See *Annual Register*, Vol. XXVI, 280.)

prevailing. Longfield, who is monstrously ungrateful, has beat him in the City of Cork, and he is in great danger in the county. His borough interest remains, and indeed is increased by Lord Midleton's complimenting him and Mr. Ponsonby with the borough of Midleton, but still the dignity of the Shannon family *is shorn of its beams* by the loss of a general influence over so great a county. Your Lordship sees the proceedings of the *Dungannon Parliament*, and can foresee its consequences better than I can. If the Bishop of Derry* mends the State and Lord Charlemont the Church, our Constitution will soon be a curious one. For my part I am content with the present with all its faults, and hope Government will resist any further innovation.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the BISHOP OF CLOYNE.

1783, Oct. 5. Blickling.—Your Lordship cannot have forgotten how much it was my wish in every reasonable instance to further the prosperity of Ireland and must consequently do justice to my feelings at the ruin and confusion which the wickedness of some, the absurdity of many, and the folly and ignorance of more is bringing forward.

If English Government is discreet they will not interfere unless call'd upon by the most respectable individuals of the country, and if those individuals are wise, such a call with the strongest assurances of effectual co-operation will not be long delay'd. It is scarcely to be conceiv'd how much the hearts even of the most liberal-minded Englishmen are ulcerated at the return made to their benevolence, and, indeed, to their submission. The Bishop of Derry seems to have thoughts of becoming a Right Revd. O. Cromwell, and if his cassock was to be searched possibly a breviaire similar to that of Cardinal de Retz might be found.

Happy at all times to hear from you, a letter at this interesting period will be more particularly agreeable.

The English Treasury has scarcely ever been placed in more honourable hands than the present; they ought, and I cordially hope that they will be supported.

Lord Shannon's disappointment gives me real uneasiness.

(Draft.)

LORD ROSS to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, Oct. 15. Dublin.—I received the honour of your letter of the 2d, and am very happy that I have it in my power to acquaint your Lordship that this day the disagreeable business which was between Mr. Conolly and Mr. Montgomery has been settled. Yesterday Mr. Montgomery came to town. The moment I heard of it I went to him with a message from Mr. Conolly, but before I could see him the Chief Justice had bound him over, and the moment Mr. Conolly appeared he was also bound over. This day two of Mr. Montgomery's friends, a Mr. Brooks

* Frederic Hervey, since 1779 4th Earl of Bristol. He had been made Bishop of Cloyne in 1767 and translated to Derry in 1768.

and a Mr. Boyd, met Mr. Staples and me and it was agreed that upon Mr. Montgomery allowing he had misconceived Mr. Conolly everything should end there. Accordingly they both met in the Speaker's Chamber and parted reconciled.

I need not tell your Lordship how very uneasy this business has made me and how happy I am to have it over. As I was certain that you must have the same feeling upon this occasion, I would not delay one moment in letting you know the event.

The BISHOP OF CLOYNE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, Oct. 18. Cloyne.—The very particular pleasure which I received from your Lordship's last kind letter occasions you the trouble of this with hardly another idea in it. In this remote corner I have scarce any medium of information but the newspapers, which hitherto have told lies only on one side. I am glad, however, to see in the last "Freeman's Journal" a tolerable paper in answer to the two first resolutions of the Dungannon meeting. They are so easily reduced *ad absurdum* that there is no great merit in doing it. Nor indeed any great use, for an Irish Presbyterian Volunteer is above human reason. But the author has taken what to me appears a better line. He proves that those resolutions carried into execution must put all government and property into the hands of the Papists. This, which was intuitively clear to every understanding but that of a demagogue, may probably disunite the heterogeneous body of reformers and give to Government its proper superiority. However proper it may be for English Administration to wait till they are called upon by the great men of this country as the best means of securing their co-operation, I could wish they would not delay sending over our complement of troops. I think it but *respectful* in Parliament to have their guards ready to return the salute of armed petitioners. Mr. Conolly croaks as usual. He is very apt to guess right, but I hope will prove a false prophet. Our friend the Dean of Cork who has invlivened a few days of my retirement, begs your Lordship's acceptance of his best compliments with mine. I must again repeat my thanks for your letter of forgiveness. Your Lordship is a better Christian than I am, for I have not yet forgiven myself for the appearance of inattention.

The BISHOP OF CLOGHER* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, Nov. 7. Dublin.—Your Lordship I fear will be ready to conclude from the length of a silence which cannot be defended, and for which I most seriously condemn myself, that you once in your life at least conferred very solid favors on a very undeserving man; and that he who had the honor of being considered your first chaplain during the greatest part of your residence in this country, has turned out a very ungrateful and good for

* The Right Revd. Dr. John Hotham, Bishop of Ossory, was made Bishop of Clogher in April, 1782.

nothing fellow. Yet this, my Lord, I will venture to say, is not yet the case. I have, and shall ever retain, the warmest sense of all your goodness to me, and with your Lordship's permission will venture to hope, notwithstanding all interruptions in the line of correspondence, that your favourable opinion of your old servant will continue during your life ; as my gratitude to, and sincere friendship for, my noble master and benefactor most certainly will to the last hour of mine. Your Lordship cannot be a stranger to the general situation of this country ; I will not, therefore, attempt to describe it. It is indeed beyond description, and if I be not more mistaken than ever I was in my life, the Island must be fought for in a much shorter time than is commonly imagined. Palliations will not do ; we impute to timidity and political impotence every expression of friendship from your side of the water, and insolently rise in our expressions and demands on every concession. On Monday next is to be the meeting of the delegates from each province in the heart of the metropolis, for which purpose the Bishop of Derry arrived in town this day, escorted by a squadron of Derry Volunteers. I narrowly missed seeing his public entry, but am told that the Right Reverend Father in God wore a purple coat faced with white, and on his head a gold laced hat with a cockade. He was received at Lord Charlemont's by different corps of Volunteers under arms, and takes up his residence at Mr. Fitzgerald's, who went out to meet him this morning about a couple of miles, in great pomp and splendor of equipage, &c. I am, as I believe your Lordship will do me the justice to allow, far, far indeed, from a man of blood. But should I live to see the day when all authority is lost, when armed associations prevail in every part, when treason is publicly spoken, written, printed and avowed, when rebellion seems popular and meritorious, when the people of principal property and consideration in a country dare not speak their sentiments or take a part towards its preservation, when its national assemblies sit in silent and tremulous expectation of the resolutions of a self-constituted and illegal one to decide perhaps on the expedience or necessity of their further existence and its Government stirs not a finger towards their support, should it be my misfortune to live to see an Island in so deplorable a predicament, I should almost if not altogether be of opinion that a thousand good troops stationed in each of its provinces, and a dozen or twenty frigates hovering about its coasts would be the most expeditious and effectual way of bringing its infatuated inhabitants to reason. *Mais changeons de matière, et de plume.* If Lady Buckingham and Lady Emily have not entirely forgotten me, they will perhaps think it is high time that I should enquire after and present my best compliments to them both, which with your Lordship's permission I take this opportunity of doing very cordially and earnestly. I might even add some expressions of love, but whether they would come so decently (even from an old Ecclesiastic) thro' the channel of a father and a husband I am not so certain ; it might be thought rather too much upon the brogue.

I have the pleasure to assure your Lordship that your two centurions (to wit, Mrs. St. George and Mrs. Molyneux) are both in good health, and for aught I know as handsome as ever. The same may be said of Lady Brandon. *Elle va toujours son train*, and Queen Ann's motto (or Queen Elizabeth's) will suit her Ladyship admirably, "*Semper eadem*," which a wicked wag once put into English thus "worse and worse." My old flame Harriet Fitzgerald, now Mrs. Grattan,* hath produced unto her husband a daughter, and I am told (for I have not seen her this winter) looks most deplorably. Messrs. Grattan and Flood are still both alive. Their quarrel it is said is at an end, but how it can be so according to the code of honour, as it is called, I confess, tho' a dealer in mysteries, I cannot comprehend. Mrs. Elliot gave also a daughter to her spouse not long since, and they say seems not the worse for it. As to Elliot himself, it gives me very singular and real pleasure to be able to acquaint your Lordship that a more steady and exemplary clergyman does not exist in his Majesty's dominions. He is entirely clerical from head to foot; attaches himself closely to his parish and according to every account I can procure is really a credit to the gown. But no wonder, for Elliot is a good man at heart, and has more than a common share of understanding. He very sincerely lamented to me his not being able to pay his duty to your Lordship at Blickling, when in England last year, and the more so as Mrs. Elliot does not every day see so noble a country seat. Whilst on the subject of ladies producing daughters, I am really sorry to add that my landlord's wife, Mrs. Gardiner in this street, was also brought to bed some time ago, but is I believe at this moment breathing her last. Mrs. Hotham sent to enquire after her half-an-hour ago and the answer was returned that her strength was exhausted and that she could not live an hour. Were it not for this last piece of intelligence, which is certainly of the melancholy cast, I should now wind up this interruption to your Lordship by observing that I have proceeded in this letter as might naturally be expected from a man who has just hired a very tolerable man cook, as I have done this fortnight. I have given your Lordship two courses. In the first you found I believe something to *chew* upon; the second produced, according to the rules of cookery, the *Volaile*, or as we have it in the Hebrew, the *Volatile*, the light, airy, delectable and picquant. But alas I have not as yet a confectioner, so that in the article of dessert I must fall short. But I think I know my man and that I have to deal with a practical one, &c.

P.S.—What says your Lordship to the petition lodged in form against the city of Clogher for an undue election? Such I assure you is the case, and in these times I will not pretend to say what may be the consequence, but I do venture to affirm that the election was, perhaps, the most constitutional one in the kingdom. It has not yet disturbed, nor shall it disturb, my rest for five minutes. I take the liberty of troubling your Lordship

* Henry Grattan m. Miss Fitzgerald in 1782.

with two more packets by this mail. The one is a letter for my friend Harry, who informs me he is now at Blickling; the other is a pamphlet sent from the Press, which promises to make a noise, and may serve to show your Lordship that my gloom in the first sheet of this letter was not wholly without foundation.

Mrs. Gardiner has just expired.

The BISHOP OF CLOYNE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, Nov. 22. Dublin.—The inclosed paper will give your Lordship an idea of the object of our *National Convention*; though you will have more trouble in reading it than I intended, by the mistake of the person who cut it out of the “Dublin Evening Post” of this date. If I could have formed any judgment of the probable event of this extraordinary meeting, I should before this time have communicated it to your Lordship. At present the conjectures are various. Mine, on which I do not much rely, is that all who have any thing to lose, sincerely wish that they had never engaged, and would be happy to see the Convention closed. The division of the Popish interest has produced what appears to me a happy effect. Had they all supported Lord Kenmare *and counterfeited* an indifference with regard to the right of voting, there would have been no check on the demands of the Presbyterians, to extend it *to all Protestants* in the several Counties possessed of a certain freehold right to vote with all the Borough Towns. But the weaker part of them under the guidance of Sir Patrick Bellew (an intimate of the Bishop of Derry) *honestly* declared their wishes to enjoy a right of voting, alarmed the Presbyterians and made them narrow their claims, to avoid, on one side the danger of admitting Papists to vote and of course by their numbers gaining the Government of the kingdom, and on the other, the risk of alienating their popish allies by excluding them only. This confusion of schemes will I hope disperse the Babel-Consultation, and send them back to their several homes to talk a variety of unnecessary nonsense.

Everything depends on the firmness of Government. If our ministers have good nerves, they have, I think, nothing to fear, but a few more regiments would do us no harm. Mr. Conolly was the only delegate who did not attend the meeting, or make any apology for non-attendance. It would be well for this country, that there were more men of equal decision.

S[ACKVILLE] HAMILTON* to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, November 27. Dublin Castle.—The condition of Ireland, though singular and in a certain degree critical, is, I hope, not yet so serious as it appears upon paper, and I trust there is more than sufficient good sense and moderation to balance the absurdity of a few. The Right Reverend Oliver is by no means

* Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant. See also Ed. Tighe to the Ear of Buckinghamshire, 26 Jan., 1764.

an object of apprehension, the ridicule which so justly strikes your Lordship is much stronger in the eyes of every one upon the spot, where a thousand additional circumstances heighten it and make him the jest of every company. If he goes no further than calling some of our knights and esquires drunkards and whore-masters, his preaching will have the usual effect; but if he attempts to take away Mr. Pery's bauble I think he will meet with a stiff resistance and possibly find a cracked skull. No; a much abler man is the Phlogiston that keeps the metal of the convention together, without whom they would speedily crumble into dust. The Volunteer of Derry is of no consequence. He of Winchester is, but not sufficiently so, to make us all forget the happy state of our Constitution or to hazard the fate which your Italian epitaph records. This with the determined firmness of Government to support the Constitution, will not suffer me to have the slightest despondency upon the event.

The BISHOP OF CLOYNE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, Nov. 9. Dublin.—The interest your Lordship takes in the welfare of this kingdom must make you solicitous to know the event of (what is called) the National Convention.

This evening Mr. Flood moved for leave to bring in a Bill for a *more equal representation in Parliament*. The motion alarmed our *sleeping* Administration; who expected (if they thought about it) such a motion to come in two months after Christmas. Being alarmed they came to a resolution (inspired by Mr. C—y) to oppose the motion, *originating from an armed body convened for the purpose of aweing Parliament*. Yelverton, Attorney General, took this ground and maintained it well. Flood in his answer was so tiresome and spoke so little to the point that I own (perhaps I should blush for it) I was tired and came home to dinner before I heard the decision. Your Lordship will excuse my giving my ideas of the transaction. If Flood had intended the success of the measure, in my opinion, he would have sent down the plan fixed on by the Convention to the Country, to get it confirmed and recommended by the several counties convened by the Sheriffs. Which recommendation might be conceived by those who have known nothing of Country meetings, to contain the senses of the people. But this would not answer his purpose, who is immediately going off to England, and hopes to carry with him an importance derived from having all *Ireland at his back* to shake the present ministry in England, which was the *real* object of the late meeting at Dungannon, originated like the former from English parties who chose to fight their battles on Irish ground. At present Government and *all* the great men of the country are united and bear a firm countenance, and therefore for one I have not the least fear of insurrection.

To talk nonsense costs nothing to fools; but to act, that is to risk life and property, will make even fools consider. If they were to rise they are unprepared, disunited, have neither money, magazines or anything to render them formidable.

I wish we had a few more regiments. Your Lordship knows it is too much the system (if it can be called *the system*) of English Ministers to be neglectful of this country. The House of Commons is still sitting. If it sits too late to give you the division, *I promise* you a triumphant majority. To-morrow you shall have the division.

THE BISHOP OF CLOYNE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1783, Nov. 30. Dublin.—I am happy to be able to make good my prophecy, by last night's post, that there would be a triumphant majority against Flood's motion for leave to bring in a Bill of Reform of Parliament. It was negatived, 157 to 78. The House then came to the following resolutions:—

Resolved, that it is now become indispensably necessary for this House to declare that they will maintain the rights and privileges of Parliament against all encroachments whatsoever.

Ayes 150; Noes under 70; several members being gone away.

Resolved (on a motion by Mr. Conolly), that an humble address be presented to his Majesty to assure him of our attachment to his royal person and government, thoroughly sensible of the blessings we enjoy and determined to preserve the present happy constitution inviolate at the risk of our lives and fortunes.

Mr. Flood, Brownlow, and about thirty of the opposition (after a little whispering) seceded and the resolution passed without a division. One *No* by Grattan, who is now the contempt of all parties, and the disgrace of them too, by having an unanimous grant of £50,000.

Resolved, that a message be sent to the Lords on Monday to request their concurrence in the address. House broke up between 3 and 4 this morning.

As I have the resolutions only from Mr. C—'s memory, they may not be exact verbatim, but your Lordship has the meaning and principal expressions. I sincerely congratulate your Lordship on this transaction, which, by its decision, will in my apprehension restore quiet to this Country—and I the more warmly congratulate you from the important share our friend Mr. Conolly had in it. Everybody now applauds his wisdom as well as firmness, in never attending the illegal Convention.

Had the moderate men of property and character absented themselves, the few violent men of rank would have been ashamed of their shabby companions and the meeting would have become ridiculous. Their presence gave it dignity and made it formidable. Administration were timid, misled by Grattan, Ogle, and Lord Carysfort, a *wonderful* choice of ministers. Yelverton too had been deeply engaged by his former conduct to support the volunteer importance. Government strongly urged Mr. C—— to attend the Convention. He saw deeper, and obstinately refused. They now see he was right. Still I wish for a few more regiments. The appearance of them would possibly prevent a few rash block-heads from being knocked on the head—who at present may presume on the weakness of our military force.

EDWARD TIGHE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1784, Jan. 26. Dublin.—An unwillingness to break in upon your Lordship in such times as the present has hitherto prevented me from acknowledging the very valuable lines addressed to me from Marble Hill. The picture is admirably drawn, and I must grieve to think that it is too just.

This day the House of Commons met, and after some hours passed in ordinary business, Mr. Molyneux, who is a new member and rises upon every occasion, proposed an address to the King, approving of the overturn of the Coalition. Mr. Fitzgibbon moved an adjournment to Feb. 9th, and professed a dislike to entering into the Parties of the other country.

Mr. Conolly did the same in his short manner, and this last motion in the end was carried without a division.

As there were not forty members present when the question was proposed, if Mr. M—— had understood Parliament he might have prevented an adjournment to Feb. 9th, by making it necessary to adjourn to to-morrow.

I understand that the Lord Lieutenant* is as easy as any man can be in his situation. Your old friend and servant, Mr. Sackville Hamilton, speaks of him with great respect. I could not refrain from reading your Lordship's favor to him and Mr. Foster, and both were as much pleased with the description as the subject would allow.

My little boy has undergone two fevers since September last. During December he was twice in extreme danger, from whence Quin and Sir Nathaniel Barry and Dr. Charles Quin have at last restored him.

SIR THOMAS DURRANT† to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1784, Feb. 25. London.—Your attentions to me have been so frequently repeated as to render it difficult to vary the terms of expressing my acknowledgement.

The very novel political scene now before us cannot but be extremely embarrassing to those whose opinions are form'd upon the principles of the Revolution. The important part of the question is not whether Mr. Fox or Mr. Pitt are to be Ministers, but whether the Crown is to support an Administration in opposition to a majority in the House of Commons.

The House of Lords have indeed step'd forth, yet there was every reason to believe, previous to the assiduous circulation of the Crown's abhorrence of the East India Bill, that it would have pass'd by a majority of at least one third.

That Bill is generally conceiv'd to have occasion'd the disgrace of the Duke of Portland, yet it is somewhat whimsical that the first of the Cabinet who received his dismissal was Lord Stormont, tho' he and his unkle, Lord Mansfield, had both voted in opposition to it. It is also confidently asserted that when the

* The Duke of Rutland was appointed to succeed Ld. Northington Feb., 1784

† Of Scottowe in Norfolk.

Bill was submitted to his Majesty's deliberation, previous to the introduction of it in Parliament, he never hinted even his disapprobation. If Mr. Pitt can firmly establish himself he stands forth Minister of the Prerogative and the immediate creature of the Crown, triumphant over the House of Commons, and with a tolerable foundation for depending upon the complaisance of the other House. Mr. Pitt's disinterested disposal of the Office of Clerk of the Rolls commands the general applause,—it was a noble flight of young ambition. At his age with such abilities, with such expectations, the pinnacle of political greatness almost within his reach, it might also be deem'd a measure of the most judicious foresight and the most deliberate wisdom.

The friends of the present Ministers are fond of contrasting the virtues of Mr. Pitt's private character with the excesses of Mr. Fox. Mr. Pitt is undoubtedly not accused of gaming, extravagance, or any other particular vice. It is rather problematical whether a man will make the better Minister for having uniformly kept the ten commandments, and would not it be possible to find in history instances of those who, apparently correct in their private conduct, have achiev'd the most capital publick mischiefs? With respect to the immediate subject of your letter, I shall only mention, tho' without presuming to dictate to a better judgment than my own, that it is my determination to omit no opportunity of manifesting my attachment to the constitution on the principles of the Revolution, which words begin and conclude my letter. There is a report of a conciliation between the contending partys, but the difficultys seem insurmountable.

The BISHOP OF CLOYNE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1784, May 16. Dublin.—Our suspense is at end, I wish I could say comfortably, but the minds of the lower people are distracted, and Administration seems bewildered and irresolute. The volunteer spirit has worn out in people of rank and fortune, who feel that they had gone too far; and is transferred to such as have nothing to lose. Numbers of the mere mob of Dublin, in absolute rags but provided with arms, are constantly drilled, sometimes late in the night. It can scarcely be doubted but that some foreign money is circulated amongst them, but unless they are countenanced by people of property I should hope our good neighbours the French would not take on themselves the entire support of this ragged army. The associations to purchase Irish manufactures have set our looms in motion for the present, but without greater frugality in the master and industry in the workman the relief will be only temporary, and I despair of reformation whilst the manufactures are carried on in Dublin. Your Lordship will wish to know the operation of our new judicial polity in respect to appeals. Nothing can be worse, it surpasses even our apprehensions. At the beginning we had some hopes, but the Ely cause extinguished them. Before it began, the judgement of many, very many of our Peers was

anticipated by those who speculated on the sure standard principles of kindred and county influence. Those of the Judges who had been advocates for the parties continued so, and gave the same opinions with the same warmth as they had formerly at the Bar.

The *only* Law Lord in the House did not shine on this occasion in *any particular*. Many peers voted who had not given any attention to the pleadings; some who had scarce ever been in the House during the trial. What added to the distress of those who were anxious for justice was the difference of opinion amongst the judges, on the sole point of law. In point of numbers there was a balance on the side of Hume; but after considering in the best manner that I could the comparative experience and the manifest partiality of individuals, the real weight of authority was to my apprehension in favour of Loftus, and after studying the case with a degree of labour beyond any I ever exerted in so short a time, I was and am convinced that justice was on that side. I committed my arguments to writing and submitted them to some judicious friends, who were of opinion that I *ought* to deliver them, which I did without deviation. I mention this detail to your Lordship to account for the conduct of a Bishop of your making, in not following *the* Law Lord. Indeed, his Lordship's opinion was unfortunate with regard to its influence on our benches, as out of nine present not one was convinced by him. In the last appeal from him he was equally unlucky with regard to the Judges, who were unanimous in reversing a material part of his Decree; which was in truth so obviously contrary to justice (in the adjustment of an account) that a merchants' clerk could have corrected it. I was too sick of the Ely Cause to attend any other—Lord Bristol has been for some time quiet and sick—perhaps for that reason—quiet does not agree with his constitution. I should apologise for not having wrote before, and now for having wrote a letter of such unreasonable length. In my next I shall give some account of the situation of Buckingham Hospital, which from the distressed state of this country has not gone on in the manner I could wish, though no exertions of mine have been wanting.

I set off for Cloyne to-morrow.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the DUKE OF
NORTHUMBERLAND.

1785, Jan. 27.—Sir Richard Heron has lately informed him that the Duke of Bedford had expressed a wish in relation to the donative of Werrington. His answer however was that Werrington was at this time in the possession of the Duke of Northumberland and that he could enter into no negotiation upon the subject. Thinks it right to inform the Duke of this. . . .

The DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1785, Jan 27. Northumberland House.—Is very much obliged to Lord Buckinghamshire for having communicated to him the

application made to him concerning the donative of Werrington, and for the appointment to that preferment of the Duke's friend. The Duke would be glad to buy that living, if Lord Buckinghamshire is inclined to sell it, as it is so immediately adjoining his property as to make it a very desirable object to him.

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the DUKE OF
NORTHUMBERLAND.

1785, Jan. 29.—Has no thoughts at this time of disposing of Werrington, but the Duke may depend upon its remaining in its present situation as long as he shall wish it should.

Draft.

The BISHOP OF CLOYNE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1785, March 28. Dublin.—A series of distressing circumstances in my family have prevented my writing to your Lordship for a long time. I had nothing of a publick nature to communicate, having been shut up in the country; nothing private that was not calculated to distress my friends.

On my coming to town, a month ago, I had the mortification to find that partly from the want of money, partly from want of zeal to follow your Lordship's good example, Buckingham Hospital, though completed and partly furnished, is yet unapplied and stands a monument how ill the nation deserved your bounty.

It has been the object of my attention, if it should be found impracticable to apply it to inoculation, how to convert it to some charitable use, and preserve to the founder the credit due to him. Two modes have occurred to me, either to transfer it to the Governor of the House of Industry, as a place to receive and educate the children of beggars who ought to be separated from the vagrants; or make it a Lock Hospital for venereal patients. The latter is most popular, most easily practicable and by being a separate charity would make your foundation stand single and not merge and of course be as it were lost, in a more expensive establishment. But I cannot think of taking any step without your Lordship's previous approbation.

As I propose visiting England in less than a month's time, I should wish to be favoured, as early as it is convenient, with your Lordship's commands.

It will be a particular pleasure to me to pay my duty to your Lordship, but as the health and spirits of my family and other business determine me first to Bath and Bristol, I must defer that honour till my revolution brings me towards London.

JEREMIAH IVES to THE SAME.

1786, Sept. 12. Norwich.— . . . Your Lordship in confidence is pleased to ask my opinion relative to the ensuing election. . . . A very good friend of your brother's has given me an accurate account of the state of the canvas; and allowing

all the doubtful and neutral votes to be in favour of Sir Thomas Beevor there will then remain a considerable majority in favour of your brother.* So much depends on the management on the day of election . . .

Your family interest is now at stake, it must now be established or it will receive such a check as will not be easily recover'd.

The REVD. JOHN STRACHEY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1786, Oct. 26. Newman Street.—The Parsonage House and other buildings upon his glebe at Erpingham† being compleated, he desires, as he is required by Act of Parliament to “insure the “same against accidents by fire at such sum of money as shall “be agreed upon by Ordinary, Patron and Incumbent,” to submit to Lord Buckinghamshire a description and estimate of the premisses.

EARL OF EXETER to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1786, Dec. 25. Burghly.—Is commissioned by Mr. Walsingham and Lord Vernon to enquire whether he will do them the honour of belonging to the Sunday Evening Concert Society. Their entertainments have met with general approbation.

E. B. HERNE to THE SAME.

1786, Dec. 30. 32, Edward Street, Manchester Sqr.—Requesting the favour of a wild turkey to give a friend. Has not now the opportunity he had when he lived in Norfolk to get one.

The DEAN OF NORWICH [PHILIP LLOYD] to EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1787, Jan.—Mr. Gay has, I trust, acquainted your Lordship that it was impossible for me to obey your Lordship's commands in respect to Hempstead. That living was disposed of at the General Chapter, which is the regular manner of doing all businesses of that kind. The Chapter was held on the 16th of December last, and the living of Hempstead given with the Vicarage of Wighton, which was also vacant, both together they make a very inadequate provision for a very worthy clergyman whose name is Tickell; he is brother to Mr. Tickell, a Commissioner of Stamps and author of the pamphlet “Anticipation;” and his character and behaviour are such that I flatter myself your Lordship will not disapprove of the nomination.

BISHOP OF CLOYNE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1787, Jan. 23. Dublin.—Before this letter comes to your Lordship's hands, I hope you will have received from my printer,

*The Hon. H. Hobart was returned M.P. for Norwich, Sept. 1786, in succession to Sir Harbord Harbord, created Lord Suffield.

†In Norfolk.

Mr. Cadell, a copy of a pamphlet of mine on the state of the Irish Church. The anxiety in which I passed the summer in the midst of outrage, and the unremitting labour of attending to the distemper of our clergy, and at the same time preparing to state their rights to the publick, must apologize for my not communicating to your Lordship a detail of those enormities which filled the newspapers and yet were not fully stated. Nothing could be more disgraceful or more full of public dangers than the situation of the entire province of Munster for eight months past. Yet in Dublin the tone was *all is peace*. In this situation, convinced fully of the contrary, I came forward, a forlorn hope, and this day four weeks past produced boldly the real state of the Church and country. Hasty as the composition was, the subject bore it up, and the sixth edition is this day exhausted. Till Parliament met my nerves were on the strain, but the sanction which my state received from the Lord Lieutenant's Speech and the Addresses of the two Houses relieved me from apprehension of being thought rash in giving the alarm. The motives for reprinting the pamphlet in England are stated in the preface. Much could I have wished to tell your Lordship all my fears, which perhaps your better knowledge would have dispelled, but they could not all be safely committed to the post. At present as the danger is seen it therefore grows much less, and the friends of the Protestant interest are somewhat easier. Whatever may be your Lordship's judgement on my reasoning, you will, I flatter myself, find in my little tract a zeal and a spirit to fill that station which I owe to your Lordship's goodness. It will not bear your critical eye; but your bias to the constitution in Church and State may make you favourable.

EDWARD TIGHE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1787, Feb. 21. Dublin.—In spite of the low state of this wretched country your Lordship's kind permission ought to have been sooner attended to.

I have been here three months and during the whole of that time new calamities and new outrages have been brought from many parts of the Island by almost every post. If I should transcribe the feeling, well-wrought speech of Ross from the fourth act of Macbeth it would scarcely be too much.

The Bishop of Cloyne's book as he himself declared is soft, cool and mild in comparison of the real distresses not only of the Clergy but of all good subjects.

At length, however, I hope and believe the reign of this devil is almost finished, as the leaders of Parliament and indeed every person concerned in or connected with the State or Property of the Country feel it necessary, as well they may, to express almost unanimity and to exert a very strong hand. The Government appears to be firm, able and resolved; and opposition is so exceedingly trifling, in all senses of the word, that it is little more than "*exceptio probat regulam*." I fear the consequences of the concessions to P. . . . of 1778 and 1780 were not fully weighed,

and I am sure all the concessions and proceedings which tended to disunite these realms were highly mischievous to property, to energy, to safety. But it was the madness and, I think, the folly of the day.

The Parliaments have four great subjects—a Riot Bill, a further Police Bill, Commerce, Education. The last is, I think, the greatest of all.

Till people of all sorts are brought up with some sort of principles there cannot be any hope of security, and lying, thieving, dirt, laziness and spirituous liquor will carry the day. The first Bill has been under discussion three days and Dr. Quin would not allow me to stir from my chamber, for I had a real fever, though, thank God, but a slight one; and the account from Parliament of only thirty opponents to the principle of the great measure has restored me. (192, v. 30.)

There have not been any private plays since I arrived, but the Attic Theatre (Lady Ely's) are getting up "Every man in his Humour," "King Lear," "The Miser," with your Lordship's good suggestions, and "The Fairies." I do not hear of any more.

I must not conclude without assuring you that I entirely concur with your sentiments with regard to the drama communicated in your last favour of November, particularly in regard to the false taste of the old writers in many particulars, especially in punning.

P.S. My love to Lady Emily if you please.

MAJOR THE HON. ROBERT HOBART to (his Uncle) the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1788, Jan. 25. Dublin.—Everything proceeds so smoothly in the political line of this country at present, that was it not some time since I wrote I should not think myself justified in troubling your Lordship with a letter. Next to politics, scandal is the most productive source of literary correspondence; but the troops have scarcely taken the field, nothing hitherto has arisen worthy of communication. However I am confidently of opinion that, notwithstanding appearances, things before long both in the political and scandalous line will be in such a state as to render the word "smooth" inapplicable.

The gentlemen, styled patriots in the newspapers, availing themselves of the popular prejudices have, I believe, to a man (except Conolly and Grattan) offered their services to my Lord Lieutenant; but his unfortunate adherence to economy has prov'd incompatible with their views, and they already begin to murmur. They cannot desert the interests of their country gratis, and so many are in pay that it is impossible to add to the number.

Your Lordship's experience in this country must have convinc'd you that a patriot selling his vote is like a girl selling her maidenhead; the first deviation from virtue can only be obtained by love or money. No man can love the Marquis of Buckingham, consequently he must pay largely.

The Duke of Leinster and the Lord Lieutenant have had several interviews. Their politics suited to a hair, but the substantial consideration, I understand, has failed. “*Tam frustra comprehensa manus effugit imago.*”

One of his Grace's followers in the House of Commons was hostile yesterday, Longfield held by fair words, Corry (and he influences O'Neil, I might have said directs his political conduct) is not yet satisfied, nor is he likely to be. The curious part of the history of these gentlemen is that they at all times profess'd the greatest personal regard and good opinion of the Duke of Portland, but oppos'd him on principles of English Party, and now that the most obnoxious man in England to that party is sent over Lord Lieutenant they consider themselves as acting with perfect consistency in offering him their support. His Excellency was wonderfully civil to me, but as he makes use of the same words to everybody else, I do not think much of them.

VICOMTE DE LA HERRERIA to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1788, Jan. 30. Turin.—Since he last saw Lord Buckinghamshire he has represented Spain at various Courts in Holland, Naples, and now at Turin, which he will leave in May for Lisbon. He was three years in Paris, under M. D'Aranda—“*Mais cette detention n'est pas etée (sic) tout-à-fait infructueuse, car j'ai eu l'honneur d'y connaître la belle et aimable Miladi Belmor, qui à titre de sa beauté, de ses belles qualités, et de fille de Milord Buckingham faisait pour moi une très précieuse connaissance.*”

(Commissioning Lord Buckinghamshire also to procure for him various pieces of Irish linen, both for sheets, shirts, and the table.)

The EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to VICOMTE DE LA HERRERIA.

1788, Feb. 28.—Is not surprised at the mistake which has caused the Vicomte to address him as the Viceroy of Ireland. He is so no longer. It is the Marquis of Buckingham, formerly Lord Temple, who now holds that post.

Lady Belmore has often spoken of him, and takes the opportunity of assuring him of her friendship.

SIR HENRY CLINTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1788, Aug. 4. Spa.—Had I had anything worthy your Lordship's notice to communicate you would have heard from me sooner. A letter from Romanshoff's army which I have seen gives some particulars of the naval action at the entrance of Lake Liman. The Capt. Bashaw seems to have conducted himself like a blockhead; he grounded his fleet on the sands in the entrance, and gallies, gunboats and armed vessels (for there was not a single Russian line of battle ship there) nearly completed his destruction, he himself, however, escaped with a few ships to Varna. Altho' the Swedes have certainly struck a blow in Finland by this time, unless the Danes join them, which I for

one do not think they will, or the Prussians, or French interfere, I am convinced the Turks will sue for peace by October, not that I expect that the Emperor* will have great success (perhaps the contrary) till the Turks risking an action on the Pruth to save Bender are beat and retire *à la débandade* over the Danube, where M. De Romanshoff will probably besiege Bender; he is too wise to undertake it till he has beaten the Serasquier, tho' 'tis the fashion to say here that he will. The news of the districts nearer home your Lordship has as soon and probably better authenticated than we have here. The spirit of liberty stalks abroad, everything seems to rest upon what may be the close of the contest in F(rance). I leave this about the 20th Sept., and after visiting Brunswic shall return to England about November.

SIR HENRY CLINTON to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1788, Sept. 28. Spa.—When I wrote to your Lordship last it was from appearances as they then presented themselves. I really thought from exaggerated accounts of Russian naval victories, that Romanshoff would have advanced into Moldavia and Wallachia, and opened the door to the Emperor's offensive, and that the Turk would have sued for peace behind Mount Hæmus and Rhodophe before November; I now believe that the Capt. Bashaw has relieved Ocsikoff, and that the garrison has probably made a successful sortie, and Romanshoff has repassed the Neister to prevent Potemkin's being between the Corps of Oxicoff and Bender, or how account for the tardiness of the Russians? 'Tis probable the Grand Visir knowing all this has wisely made his greatest efforts against the Emperor in hopes of bringing him to terms he cannot expect from the Russians; with whom 'tis very unlikely they can make any, as each contends not for the *independence* but for the *dependence* of Crimea. The Emperor having failed in his attempt on Belgrade at the opening of the Campaign is now blamed for the attempt and the failure; 'tis pity (I now speak only professionally) he could not afterwards have made an offensive move, besieged Belgrade in form, and covered it by a Corps either at Hassan Massa, or on the Morava, that perhaps would have been the best way of covering Bannat and Transylvania, but as it was not done, it no doubt was not practicable. The Grand Visir in his present move has assumed the appearance of offensive (so necessary to fill his buletin at Constantinople) without the danger generally attending it, unless he is unwise enough to commit himself in the open part of Bannat. His operation as far as it has gone tho' it might possibly have met with greater obstruction could not have been prevented even by a Eugene (on the defensive behind the Save); the Turks by spirited exertion and perseverance and *great loss* have gained the principall debouchées into Bannat and Transylvania. I do not, however, think they will advance into the open country, much less do I

* Joseph II.

think that the Emperor will attack them unless they do or should they retire, nor do I suppose H. I. Majesty will retire over any of the branches of the Tamiseh, for if he does 'tis probable he will lose Transylvania and his short communication with the Danube by Pan Zova. The Grand Visir will probably repass the Danube with his Guards to prevent Landon's* undertaking the siege of Belgrade, which I am apt to think he meditates.† As the Emperor did not find it expedient to attack the Turk in the Defilées, and before he had secured them by possession of Mehadia‡, in my humble opinion he has acted very judiciously in not attacking him since, but in trying rather to draw him into a country where defeat may be more decisive, but I suppose the Turk will be satisfied with holding the Debouchées of Bannat and Transylvania, which will oblige the Emperor to keep a considerable army in each, instead of a small corps which was all that was necessary in either before he lost the Debouchées.

If the Grand Visir, now that he has drawn the Emperor into the Bannat, does not immediately make some attempt on the right of the Danube, or Landon does not do something at Belgrade, or in Bosnia, or on the Morava at Nissa, or Semendria, things will probably remain as they are till Romansoff, *enabled* to advance into Moldavia and Wallachia, relieves the Emperor; no direct move of his own can do it I apprehend. Oct. 1st.—By a Vienna Gazette of the 20th Sept. it appears probable as they say that an action happened at Slatina on the 14th. I cannot believe it. The Turk will not surely attack the Emperor in the open country, or even advance into it, nor will the Emperor attack him unless he does—or that by Romansoff's advancing in Wallachia, or Landon's threatening Belgrade or something else shall oblige the Turk to retreat, and if he does I do not conceive that the Emperor can press him much.

When the two Imperials met at Cherson they determined on measures probably, but they do not seem to have considered the means also; the R. army has certainly been ill provided. I have not the least doubt but that the siege of Oxicoff will be hurried into a blockade, and the great effort will be to save the Emperor, who can't now extricate himself by any direct move, unless the G. Visir blunders on the left as the Capt. Bashaw did on the right.

The DUKE OF PORTLAND to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1788, Nov. 17. London.—The importance of the subject which has overcome the difficulties which the uncertainty of the time it may come under our consideration had opposed to my submitting it to your Lordship's attention, will I hope and believe induce you to forgive the anxiety I feel for your presence in the House of Lords on next Thursday; at the same time

* Gédéon Ernest, Baron de Landon (1716-1790), Field Marshal of the Austrian armies.

† Belgrade fell before Landon the 6th Oct., 1788.

‡ Or Meadia.

that I must acknowledge the little probability there seems to be of any measure being then proposed in consequence of the calamitous and I believe desperate state of the King's mind. The moment when such a proposition may be offered is so uncertain that I cannot help risking the danger of being thought importunate rather than subject myself to the hazard of appearing wanting in the attention and sincere respect I possess for your Lordship by suppressing my wishes for its not being brought forward in any shape without your being a party to the deliberations it must undergo. A business so perfectly and happily novel, so new a phenomenon in the Constitution, an occasion so connected and interwoven with the very essence of it appears to me to be entitled to the consideration of every man and to require the determination of it to be made under the sanction of the first and most respectable characters of the kingdom. This opinion makes me bold in soliciting your Lordship's attendance.

DUKE OF PORTLAND to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1788, Dec. 19.—(Acknowledging the important communications Lord Buckinghamshire has made to him.)

"I anxiously wish you to believe that I do not regret the injunctions you have been laid under respecting the statement of the reasons and that the impression they have made upon your Lordship is to me a sufficient proof of their weight." . . . Is anxious to see him "upon this very important and awefull subject."

EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to the DUKE OF PORTLAND.

(*Draught. Undated.*)—Though I feel justly sensible of your Grace's attention in expressing a desire to see me, yet it is most sincerely my wish to decline that honour, as your time might be much better spent. You may, however, command me at any hour this morning or to-morrow before 1 of clock. Your Grace will understand that however strong my opinion may be for his Royal Highness rather to accept the Regency under restrictions than to risque the consequences of declining, yet my vote will be very frankly given for his not being laid under any.

. . . .

HORACE WALPOLE to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1788, Dec. 14. Berkely Square.—I am quite confounded by your Lordship's goodness and by the honour you have done me which I esteem as much as the great curiosity your Lordship has been pleased to send me; and I beg leave to return you my most grateful thanks for both. I should bring them myself to your Lordship's door were I not confined to my house by a great cold, but I shall have that honour the first moment I am able.

The letter will be very valuable in my little collection tho' certainly it was more worthily placed in such a seat as Blickling; but as your Lordship is more pleased in conferring favours than in possessing curiosities, I will only say that you could not have honoured any man with such a present who would be more sensible of such a distinction and who is more proud of being with the greatest respect and gratitude, etc. . . .

GEORGE SELWYN to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1790, Jan. 22. Cleveland Court.—You should not be surprised if you find me, as I am, a little vain upon being able to assist your recollection of anything that is ingenious, either in an antient or modern writer. The passage in Pliny, which dropt in our conversation the other day, was one which struck my fancy, it is now more than fifty years since, when I first read Mr. Rollin's work, called "*La Manière d'Enseigner et d'Etudier les Belles Lettres.*" I read it for the second time not a month ago. What made me remember it, was a remark of Mr. Rollins', which says that "*Ob unam hanc culpam,*" seems as if Pliny had some idea of original sin. Of that and of other parts of Sacred History they had some imperfect knowledge no doubt. Only they regarded *that* as fabulous, which we are instructed to believe is not so.

It is the preface to the Seventh Book which I wish your Lordship to read over again, and then you may, if you please, cast your eye over some of the subsequent chapters, which will entertain and surprise you. I have long wish'd to have an edition of Pliny with copperplates, because, after I have found the name of a fish, bird, beast or plant, in three or four languages, I am still at a loss to get a precise idea of it.

Squilla is call'd a Shrimp, and is so I believe; but when Juvenal speaks of a *Squilla* being serv'd up in a dish which would hold a Turtle, it cannot be the same. Yet those on the coast of Africa and near Alexandria were certainly of a greater size than some, and brought at a great price, for those at Rome who kept expensive tables.

Pliny's account of the alliance, offensive and defensive, between this fish and the *Nacre de Perle* is very amusing.

But to return to that passage which was first mentioned, can there be so admirable a picture drawn as that of a new-born infant? And how beautiful is his remark upon that helpless state! There is another in Juvenal which I admire equally:—

“*Primos incipientem.*

Edere vagitus et adhuc a matre subentem.”

I have been too often in a nursery at this early period, since my acquaintance with Lord Carlisle, not to be struck with this description.

P.S. The first time I ever saw your Lordship was in Lady Suffolk's apartment at Leicester House in King George 1st's time, and there used to be Dr. Arthburnot (*sic*) (Arbuthnot?), whom perhaps you may still have some remembrance of.

How happy he would be and how able to explain some of Pliny's Natural History, which, as extraordinary and improbable as his accounts may be of some things, is to this day very valuable and full of great learning.

There is a French translation, as I am told, not ill done, and I have seen one in English by an old Doctor, but it is not worth the money asked for it.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from "a very intelligent man" enclosed by LORD BUCKINGHAMSHIRE to LORD HAWKESBURY.

1792, Oct. 14.—Not having the honour of being personally known either to Mr. Pitt, Lord Grenville or Mr. Dundas, your Lordship will excuse my taking this liberty of troubling you upon a subject of publick import.

In this part of England, and it is said in many other Countys the crop of wheat has been very indifferent, so bad also in quality that the millers assert they cannot manufacture it without a mixture of old corn. A very disagreeable spirit prevails amongst the common people, which in this neighbourhood is most assiduously fomented and if in addition to the increasing price of every necessary consumption, bread was to become dear, the consequential dissatisfaction may produce very serious mischief. The only preventive measure is an immediate stop to the exportation. This is stated merely to do justice to my own feelings, not with a presumption that my judgment can have any material weight.

LORD HAWKESBURY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1792, Oct 15. Addiscombe Place.—Acknowledging his letter of the 14th and will not fail immediately to communicate it to the rest of His Majesty's servants.

DUCHESSE DE BIRON to THE SAME.

1792, Oct. 18. Richmond.—(Thanking him for a basket of game.)

"Elle a bien du regret qu'il n'habite pas dans ce moment sa maison dans le voisinage de Richmond, le temps n'aurait pas été favorable aux promenades sur l'eau, et il aurait été difficile de répéter celle de Twicknam, mais elle se serait flattée d'avoir d'autres occasions de le rencontrer."

LORD WALPOLE to THE SAME.

1792, Dec. 23.—Enclosing a letter from Mr. Aufrere which describes the good effects which have been attained in the two Hundreds of Happing and Tunstead in having requested the assistance of the farmers, etc., in those two Hundreds. "I hope I may flatter myself that in conjunction with your Lordship, Mr. Bulwer and other friends we might have equal interest with the farmers, etc., in this Hundred to act in like manner and with equal good effect. Perhaps it might be worth your Lordship's

attention how far it might be advisable to connect the two Hundreds of N. and S. Erpingham, that they may act together. By this means the number would be more formidable in all times and in all events of any riot whatever, on pretence of the high price of provisions, etc. . . .

LORD HAWKESBURY to the EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1792, Oct. 28. Addiscombe Place.—I defer'd acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 19th till I had been in Town, to attend several meetings expressly appointed for taking into consideration the propriety of prohibiting the exportation of wheat; upon duely weighing the information received from all parts of the kingdom, the King's servants do not yet think themselves justified in taking the measure; but I conceive that the circumstances on which they mean to found their advice to his Majesty in this respect are likely soon to occur; in which case the exportation of wheat from the kingdom will be prohibited by order in council.

MISCELLANEOUS ADDENDA.

SUBSIDY ROLL FOR NORFOLK on the occasion of the
KNIGHTHOOD of the BLACK PRINCE.

[1347] 20 Edw. III.—Assessment of subsidies for the county of Norfolk made by Nicholas de Castello, Edmund de Bacons-thorpe, William att Park, Roger de Dersyngham, “collectores auxilii xl sol. de singulis feod. militum domino Regi concessi in comitatu predicto ad filium suum primogenitum militem faciendum.”

WILL OF HENRY CATTE, of Hevingham.

[1439] 17 Henry VI. Wednesday, St. Agnes.—Testamentary Deed of this date, reciting a feoffment (*inter alia*) of manors, &c., in twelve parishes and elsewhere in Norfolk, to William, Bishop of Salisbury, by name of Master William Askewe, clerk, William Yelverton and others, to the use of his will. Declares his will to be (*inter alia*) Sale of certain lands for payment of debts and legacies (his wife to have Skernyng manor for life on condition of releasing her dower therein). An enquiry to be made as to what lands in Hevingham, &c., were held in fee and not entailed. These to be held by his wife Dionysia for life, and the reversion (with the reversion of Skernyng) to be sold and the proceeds “per executores meos pro anima mea et animabus eorum quibus

teneor fiant in missis et aliis piis operibus caritationis." The entailed lands are to be confirmed to the tenants in tail by deeds indented, security being taken that the tenants in tail do not impeach the rest of his will. He gives to Dionysia, his wife, the custody and use of his best missal and at her death he desires that it be delivered to the churchwardens of Hevingham (propositis ecclesie de Hevingham predicta) "ad deserviendum ibidem in capello beatæ Mariæ in ecclesia predicta in perpetuum et dum durare poterit." A hundred marks from the sale of the "Crown" in Norwich left him by his late wife, Katherine, is to supply remuneration for his servants and distributions among the poor and celebrating masses at the executors' discretion. There is to be no general 'roga' or distribution at his funeral. (*Seal.*)

1562, 3 Eliz., 8 July.—Charter from the Queen to Sir Nicholas Bacon's free school at Redgrave, Suffolk. Finely illuminated. Fragment of seal.

N.D.—From MR. BULLER. "ARMES."

A shield.

1st and 4th Quarters, Hobart.

2nd, Lyhart. Arg. A Bull passant.

Sab. armed and unguled or, in a border sable bezanté.

3rd, Hare. Gu, 2 bars or, a chief indented of the 2nd.

The arms on the stone chimney-piece (at Blickling) are the famous Sir John Fastolf's, impaling those of Tibtoft or Tibtot, whose daughter and co-heiress he married.

Fastolf: Quarterly or, and az; a bend gules; 3 cross crossletts, or,

Tibtot: Arg. a saltire ingrailed gules.

A packet of private letters on business addressed to the 2nd Earl of Buckinghamshire during the period 1760-1791, for the most part relating to his estates at Blickling, Beer Ferris, Marble Hill, and a house in Bond Street.—(1745) A letter from John Hobart to his grandfather, W. Britiffe, mentions his father Lord Hobart's permission to him "to goe abroad," and his refusal to allow him more than £400 a year.—A draught letter from the 2nd Earl of Buckinghamshire to Miss H. Pitt, with her answer (both undated) apparently relating to a proposal of marriage.—An address to the Norwich electors (undated). The conditions attached to the marriage portions given by the 2nd Earl of Buckinghamshire to five young women of Norwich. (See Annual Register for 1762, p. 71.)

There is a plan for roofing over with a dome the outer court at Blickling (1785); with an estimate (£137 13s. 7d.) "for the stucco work of the ceiling and entablature intended to be done in the great room at Blickling," (27 April, 1779) William Ivory being the designer, and William Wilkins of Norwich proposing to execute by hand the ornamental parts. In the same year Wm. Ivory

furnishes designs for the frieze and cornice of the State Dressing-room at Blickling.—In March, 1767, according to accounts furnished by Wm. Bailey to the Earl, ten workmen are employed at Blickling in pulling down the ‘old Hall’ for at least a fortnight, under the directions of Mr. Ivory. Bailey relates that he is selling sheep at a guinea a head, and that the butcher is supplying the house with meat at 4s. a stone.

A packet of letters (1764-1788), of too trivial or indefinite nature to be separately catalogued, from the following:—

Harbord Harbord, E. Bacon, of Erleham (or Earlham), Sir John Turner, the Earl of Eglington, the Marquis of Tavistock, Charles Yorke, Dr. Lloyd (Dean of Norwich), W. H. Cavendish, Robert Fellowes (of Shottisham), the Earl of Rochford, the Prince de Masserano (Ambassador from Spain in 1777), the Earl of Suffolk, the Earl of Hillsborough, Lord Ludlow, Viscount Barrington, Mr. John Carter, the Earl of Ely, Lord Lifford (Lord Chancellor of Ireland), Capt. William Elliot, Mr. Thomas Johns (of Exeter), Mr. (afterwards Sir Thomas) Durrant (of Scottowe), the Earl of Clanbrassil, the Earl of Sandwich, Mr. Thomas de Grey, Mr. Edward Tighe, the Marquis of Buckingham, Mr. Gay, Mr. Sweetman.

Draught letters from the Earl of Buckinghamshire to the Duke of Northumberland, Lord Carberry, Lord Orford, Mr. C. D’Oyley, Lord Howe, Luke Gardiner, Mr. Crowe, the Bishop of Cloyne.

Fragments of Letters (copies) from the Marquis de la Fayette to Sir Henry Clinton, and also from the latter to the Marquis.

CHAPEL FIELD HOUSE.

1574.—Corporation of Norwich to Sir Thomas Cornwallis. Conveyance of the wall between his garden and the orchyard.

1609, 24 Feb.—Corporation of Norwich to my Lord Hobart. Feoffment of the orchard called the Chery Yard near Chapel Field House.

1670, Feb. 24.—Corporation of Norwich to Sir John Hobart. Lease of Chapel Field Croft with all the land within the wall and the Tower next St. Giles Gates, for 50 years at £16 p.a. Reserving right for the citizens of ingress &c. as often as the case should require for taking musters and mustering men and horses and exercising them in military discipline. Also for pitching tents, &c. for such musters; and for the erecting of butts of the earth to be there had, and for shooting at the said butts and twelve score mark.

1670, May 4.—Order of the Mayoralty Court of Norwich to the churchwardens and overseers of St. Peter Mancroft, and St. Giles, not to put any persons into the towers in Chappell a field, without consent of Court.

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